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Edited by J. A. Macdonald, Publicity Commissioner. *Philip Purcell, King's Printer*

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Low water conditions interfered seriously with lumber operations during 1918, and it was found necessary to shut down The Pas Lumber Company's mill in the month of July. The report notes that only a small proportion of the limits which the company operating at The Pas owns has been cut, and the community can therefore safely count on a continuance of the lumber industry for many years to come. In Northern Manitoba the areas for timber for small mill purposes are rather small. Within the last forty years practically the whole area has suffered repeatedly from forest fires and it is only on protected islands or on river banks that exceptional stands of spruce or balsam are to be found. There are, however, very large areas of timber suitable for pulpwood and there are as well very large resources of water-power, in fact Northern Manitoba contains one of the largest power areas in the Dominion of Canada. With the present demand for pulp material the question becomes of great importance in the development of this territory to delimit the areas where the establishing of the pulp industry and the development of power for that and subsidiary purposes can be undertaken at a profit. The report indicates two areas where the outlook appears most attractive, namely at Grand Rapids on the Saskatchewan river and west of Grand Rapids on the Nelson River. Negotiations have been in progress for some time with reference to the first of the areas named.

Fisheries

With the exception of the catch of sturgeon from Sipiwesk lake and of sturgeon and scale fish from Sturgeon lake, commercial fishing is carried on only during the Winter months. The operation of a train service to Mile 214 on the Hudson Bay railway has resulted in a greatly increased output of fish from the lakes tributary to the railway under normal conditions, but the prevalence of the influenza epidemic interfered with operations during the early part of last Winter. With the exception of Moose lake, Cedar lake, Cumberland and Sturgeon lakes, the lakes in which commercial fishing is carried on are relatively small in extent and careful protective measures have to be taken in order to protect the supply. Expecially is this the case at Moose lake, Cedar lake and Cumberland lake, where the Indians of the respective reserves are dependent in part on the fish supply for their food. By a strategically placed hatchery on the Saskatchewan river, much could be done to maintain the supply and the time is ripe for the establishing of a hatchery. It would then be possible to distribute spawn to several other lakes not reached directly from Saskatchewan waters. There still remains untrapped great reserves of fish in northern waters—Reindeer lake, South Indian lake and the whole Churchill waterway and Hudson bay. The last, we trust, will soon be tapped. The first industry to be established when the railway reaches the bay will be the salt water fish industry, and from the facts that can be gathered the indications are that it will reach large proportions. It is significant that a well-equipped eastern fishing company established themselves on the Hudson Bay railway line during the past year.

Agriculture and Stock-Raising

During the Summer a reconnaisance survey was made by Hudson Bay railway, Burntwood and Grass rivers, of a large section of the clay belt, the total extent of which has been estimated at 10,000 square miles. The fertility of the soil is beyond dispute. The difficulty facing agricultural operations on any large scale is the imperfect natural drainage except on the river banks. There are many localities in the clay belt, if carefully chosen, where the settler would be successful with stock and the necessary green crops. A beginning has now been made in the Hudson Bay railway area. Much more attention has been directed during the past year to the Saskatchewan river territory. Owing to the conditions of drought in the southern sections of Alberta and Saskatchewan, there was a keen demand for hay. The level of the Saskatchewan river remained abnormally low during the Summer, and haying conditions on the Carrot river area and at Moose creek were unusually good.

Seven thousand tons of hay were put up, a figure which represents a small part of the available hay during the past season. The recurrence of drought conditions on the prairies has given impetus to north country settlement, where bush conditions ensure sufficient railfall every season. This is shown in the movement of farmers into the Saskatchewan river country with stock and the numerous enquiries about grazing possibilities in the district. The fact that when the Hudson Bay railway is completed and the embargo removed on Canadian cattle this route will be the natural outlet for live stock to the European market owing to the short rail haul, will do much to make this area an important cattle-raising district in the near future.

The reclamation of the Carrot river triangle, in which the interest of both federal and provincial government has not been definitely aroused, would at once result in extensive agricultural operations in that territory, while the special terms offered on the purchase of cattle by the Department of Agriculture have already stimulated the introduction of live-stock into the Saskatchewan River and Moose Lake areas.

Game Resources

The Pas bids fair to rank as one of the few important fur markets in the Dominion. The territory tributary to The Pas has a historic significance as the starting point of the activities of the Hudson's Bay company, and still remains one of the richest fur and game reserves of Canada. It is true that the initiation of other industries will restrict to some extent the area now given over to wild life. On the other hand, increased transportation facilities will result in increased annual catch for many years to come. The high price of furs of last Winter and the much increased price prevailing at the present time has resulted in placing the fur business in the premier position among the activities of the north. The return of the rabbit, after a series of lean years, already gives indications of corresponding increase of lynx and fox. From northern territory—South Indian lake and northwards—the beaver is reported to be on the decrease. It is a striking illustration of the value of the Indian as our best conserver of game and assistant to the game wardens, that the Indians in that area take the initiative in pressing for a close season for beaver as soon as lynx and fox again become numerous. From all quarters the wolf danger is being reported. Protective measures must not be taken, either by placing poison in the hands of a few selected trappers, or by way of bounty. The province should now reap a larger revenue from this important industry. A small royalty on pelts would fairly distribute itself over the industry and could, we believe, be collected without undue machinery.

Administration of Justice in Northern Manitoba

In order to provide for the maintenance and enforcement of law and order in the territory defined as Northern Manitoba, appointments as police magistrates, justices of peace and constables have been made throughout the territory at all places where settlements of Indians, half-breeds or white people are to be found. There are now 14 police magistrates, 2 justices of the peace, 5 coroners, 3 game guardians, 4 provincial constables, of whom one is a Saskatchewan provincial constable acting for Manitoba in the boundary district, 4 local constables and 1 goaler. The preponderance of police magistrates over justices of the peace is accounted for by the fact that it is necessary for a justice of the peace to be a property owner while there is no such requirement in the case of magistrates. In the unorganized territory there is little if any ownership of property and it is therefore necessary to appoint magistrates rather than justices of the peace.

The report notes that during the year very little work has fallen to the magistrates outside of The Pas, but this is held to be due largely to the fact that their appointment has proved a preventative of crime. Throughout the whole territory there has been an absence of serious crime during the year. The policy of the officials who are directly concerned with the administration of the Game Act has been largely educational. There are only 3 game guardians to enforce the act throughout the whole territory and every effort has been directed chiefly to securing the intelligent sympathy and co-operation of the Indian chiefs and councillors. This policy has been very successful and the Indians have proved almost without exception of great assistance to the game guardians.

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Education in Northern Manitoba

(From the Annual Report of R. C. Wallace, Commissioner of Northern Manitoba).

In Northern Manitoba the administration of schools, and the assistance which the province renders to education, varies according to local circumstances. The following types of schools are to be found:

First Under organized school districts.

Second.—Under an official school trustee.

Third.—Under no board of trustees and consequently directly under the department through the Commissioner.

Fourth.—In co-operation with the Indian Department on a basis of support from the province determined by the percentage of non-treaty Indian population.

Fifth.—Under church missionary organizations with grants from the province, determined by the number of non-treaty Indian population in attendance.

Two of the schools (both of which are under organized school boards), namely, The Pas and Barrows, are visited by a school inspector. The other schools in Northern Manitoba are not under an inspectorate and are visited at somewhat irregular intervals by the commissioner; of these, one, Grand Rapids, is in an organized school district with an official trustee; while another, Moose Lake, while not in an organized district, has an official trustee. For three others, The Barrier, Big Eddy and Norway House, the salary of the teacher is paid in full through the Department of Education. In two others, Norway House (Jack River), and Nelson House, grants are made by the Department of Education to the church missionary societies under whose direction the schools are maintained, while similar assistance is given by the Indian Department.

The difference already detailed in method of administration illustrates the difficulties in dealing with the problem of education in unorganized territory. The province assumes the right to provide educational facilities for all children not otherwise cared for by the Indian Department or in private schools. The settlers who have families in this territory demand the right that their children be educated. In most settlements there are Indian, half-breed and white children. For this reason a system of co-operation between the Indian Department or missionary society and the province has been devised wherever possible and has worked out satisfactorily. The difficulties are greatest where the settlement is small and the number of children less than ten. The expense of providing educational facilities and paying the teacher is in such cases greater than would seem reasonable in proportion to the services rendered; at places, however, where there are ten children of school age or where there will be within a year ten children of school age, the question of providing a school building has been pressed with the residents. It is expected that a school will be erected at the south end of Herb Lake during the Winter. The matter of school accommodation at Mile 42, Hudson Bay railway, and the most feasible method of co-operation at Cross Lake and at York Factory, are now under consideration.

The fact impresses itself on all who are conversant with the difficulties connected with the education of half-breed children, that the teacher must possess an unusually abundant supply of patience. The response is slow, the attitude is stolid, and the results cannot easily be measured. We have been much impressed with the sterling work which is carried out under these conditions in the schools of the north. It is true that the results cannot be tabulated so readily as in the schools in the settled parts of the province; a longer time is required to cover the ground, particularly in schools where the English language is unknown to the pupils when they enter. The results of the work are seen not only in the pupils of these schools but in the little settlements for which the schools form the social centres. More than that, a country can only be truly settled where families can be reared; and the white settler with his family will only settle where there is a school. At many points in the North the schools are already becoming the nucleus for settlements of the most desirable type of northern pioneer.

Resources of Northern Manitoba

(From the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Northern Manitoba.)

Production for the Year

Statistics have been collected of the production in Northern Manitoba territory for the year December 1, 1918, to December 1, 1919. The figures refer to materials actually marketed during that period. It will be understood that with the exception of the mineral production, which is taken from smelter returns, the figures are a first approximation. Particularly with reference to the fur returns, it is difficult to obtain complete figures.

Mineral—		
Gold	$12,404.81	
Silver	21,851.51	
Copper	620,377.28	
		$694,633.60
Timber—		
Lumber	$526,800.00	
Wood (Cord)	26,500.00	
Ties	35,000.00	
		$588,300.00
Fish—		
Sturgeon	$ 28,000.00	
Scalefish	135,000.00	
		$163,000.00
Agriculture—		
Live stock	$10,800.00	
Hay	134,000.00	
		$144,800.00
Fur—(of which $617,000 was marketed at The Pas)		$1,867,000.00
		$3,457,733.60

Note.—This does not include fish caught in the northern parts of Lake Winnipegosis and Lake Winnipeg, which would properly belong to this territory but for which separate statistics cannot be obtained.

Mineral Resources

The report does not go into very much detail regarding developments in mining during the year, for the reason that this information has been made public through other sources and particularly in a bulletin recently published from the commissioner's office. It states, however, that during the year 8,482 tons of high-grade ore from the Mandy Mine was transported from Sturgeon Landing to Trail, and this output might have been doubled had better water conditions prevailed on the Saskatchewan river. Over eight thousand tons still remain on the ore pile at Sturgeon Landing and would also have been transported under better water conditions.

The total value of ore produced from Northern Manitoba fields is now $1,444,964. There was little actual mining during the year, but negotiations were in progress for the purchase of the Flin Flon low-grade copper property, the purchase of which would result in a large mining industry in the western end of the belt. Some discoveries of importance were made at Copper Lake where underground prospecting may reveal a large body of low-grade ore with values in gold.

Negotiations in the Herb Lake district have resulted in the purchase of several properties on which operations will now be begun.

The report notes that in the past the tendency among prospectors has been to confine attention to the so-called Pas mineral belt, but last year prospectors were scattered along the Hudson Bay railway into the country which had previously not been prospected. The

whole district has now been carefully investigated by the representatives of practically all the large mining corporations of the continent and a very keen interst is being taken in financial circles in all steps that are being made in the development of this area.

Timber and Water Power

Low water conditions interfered seriously with lumber operations during 1918, and it was found necessary to shut down The Pas Lumber Company's mill in the month of July. The report notes that only a small proportion of the limits which the company operating at The Pas owns has been cut, and the community can therefore safely count on a continuance of the lumber industry for many years to come. In Northern Manitoba the areas for timber for small mill purposes are rather small. Within the last forty years practically the whole area has suffered repeatedly from forest fires and it is only on protected islands or on river banks that exceptional stands of spruce or balsam are to be found. There are, however, very large areas of timber suitable for pulpwood and there are as well very large resources of water-power, in fact Northern Manitoba contains one of the largest power areas in the Dominion of Canada. With the present demand for pulp material the question becomes of great importance in the development of this territory to delimit the areas where the establishing of the pulp industry and the development of power for that and subsidiary purposes can be undertaken at a profit. The report indicates two areas where the outlook appears most attractive, namely at Grand Rapids on the Saskatchewan river and west of Grand Rapids on the Nelson River. Negotiations have been in progress for some time with reference to the first of the areas named.

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The Manitoba Minimum Wage Board

By J. W. MacMillan

(Article No. 2)

Continuing my account of the administration of the Minimum Wage Act of Manitoba during the first fifteen months of the Board's existence, I wish to refer to one matter about which I have found misunderstanding prevalent. It is the lesser minimums set for learners and minors. In a typical set of regulations, the female members of the selling force in retail stores were assigned a minimum wage of twelve dollars a week. In the case of a girl starting in without previous training in a store and already over eighteen years of age she received during the first six months a minimum wage of nine dollars, and the second six months a minimum wage of eleven dollars after which learning period she received full minimum. So ran the regulation and it has been often asked, "Does not an untrained employee require as much to live on as a trained employee? Should she not then receive the full minimum from the first?" This may seem a very naive inquiry, but it is put forward so often that I shall take the space to answer it.

This untrained girl is partly producer, and partly pupil. In so far as she produces she is to be paid. In so far as she is learning, she is an expense to her teacher and should pay for her tuition. When salesmanship is taught free in the public schools there will be no more a learning period. Nothing is more ancient in industry than apprenticeship, and it is generally felt to be a loss to industry that with the disappearance of the old-fashioned articling of apprentices nothing else is coming forward to take its place.

There are some employments which can be quickly learned, and some which require years for a full training. A kitchen girl in a restaurant is reasonably useful to her employer the day she arrives. But it takes years to make a competent printer or bookbinder. Indeed, there are some women's trades in which the custom is that the beginner starts frankly as pupil, and pays for her tuition. It is often so in the hairdresser's calling. As a general thing, the longer the period of immaturity and of small productiveness the higher wages are to be earned in the long run and the greater the chances of steady and pleasant employment. In other words, the better educated the worker is the better for her.

Can't Enforce Full Wages for Learners

Any attempt to force an employer to pay full wages to the raw hands in his establishment would fail, and would probably react to the injury of the class of working girls. There would then be few if any openings, for no sane man is going to throw away his money on incompetent workers, and the girls coming from the schools would be driven towards the low paid trades where a learning period is not of such consequence. In fact it will be impossible to set the same minimum scale for apprentices and competent workers in factories and stores until the day arrives when we pay children to go to school.

And what I have just written of adult learners is true also of girls under eighteen, commonly called minors. In them we have the two ingredients to deal with, immaturity of person, so that they are less physically strong, reliable and enduring, and immaturity of knowledge and skill, like the adult learners. It is no kindness to a child, on the part of parent or governmental board, to rush her into a position where her earnings are immediately large. It is true enough that such children are often underpaid for the work they do. That injustice can be corrected. But a greater injustice is done them when they are cheated of their childhood, one great use of which is as a preparation period for adulthood.

The Board insisted that every industry should pay its workers at least weekly, and within a day or two after the wages had been earned. Small earnings require frequent payments. Those receiving them commonly pay cash for their purchases, and the great expense of board falls due each week. To pay them monthly or fortnightly is to run the risk of allowing them needlessly to fall into debt. For even a small debt, assessed against a small earning, is a torment, and may easily grow into a crushing burden. Some firms, though not many, have the practice of constantly retaining a week's pay, with a purpose, no doubt, of stabalizing their working force. The Board forbade this custom, feeling that it was an injustice to the worker. A day or two was allowed to cover the exigencies of bookkeeping, after which the wages had to be paid.

Trade Diversities and Results

A number of smaller matters, though important enough to those affected by them, cropped up here and there, in the diversity of the trades considered. For instance, saleswomen in stores commonly work on Saturday afternoon and evenings, while their sisters in the factories and offices get this period free. It was easy to equalize the hours by prescribing that none should work more than forty-eight or fifty hours in the week. But there was the chance that the girl in the store might get a little taken off each day and still be without one solid afternoon to herself. So we required one half-day each week for the girls in the stores. Again, some of these stores, such as had restaurant licenses, were doing business seven days in the week. There a blanket regulation of so many hours a week might still leave the girl tied to her employment without a real holiday. So the Board ordered one full holiday a week for such. Or to take an instance of another sort, in stores where the selling force is large it is sent off to lunch in relays. One group goes at eleven-thirty, another at noon, and so on. Thus some of these girls, returning to work at noon or shortly after, might have five hours or even more of an uninterrupted stretch of work. We required that such should be given a ten-minute interval, approximately midway in the period, for rest, with the opportunity of getting some refreshment. It would not have done to have allowed that interval to be attached to the stretch of work at either end. Some of the girls might have preferred it so, as thus letting them get away sooner, but that would have defeated the purpose of the regulation. It was interesting to note that this provision, first required, so far as we knew, in Manitoba, was soon afterwards incorporated in the similar regulations imposed in the District of Columbia in the United States.

Reducing Labor Turnover

One of the most important matters in the employment of any class of workers is the labor turnover. This has not received as much attention as it deserves. Both employers and employees suffer from the frequency of "hiring and firing," though that current phrase is misleading for, as a matter of fact, there is little "firing." Most leave of their own good will and pleasure. But, though its power was small in this direction, the Board endeavored to make a beginning at making work more steady. The scheme it adopted was of inserting with the approval of both parties, a regulation requiring a week's notice in case of leaving or dismissal. We found that diametrically opposite customs prevailed in establishments which otherwise were precisely alike. In the one no one was ever "let out" without a week's forewarning, and none left without informing the manager a week ahead. These plants reported that the custom was honored, and that their labor turnover was small. Other plants, again, declared that no such practice was possible, and generally complained of the heedless way in which the workers would simply remain away without having given notice or excuse, until a few days later a brother or friend would call around for the arrears of pay. The time during which the Board's regulations have been in force is too short for a pronouncement as to the efficacy of this regulation. But it is certain that in the unsteadiness of the work of the average worker, with its many non-earning periods, its inculcation of careless and irresponsible habits, and the trouble it makes for the management of the plant, there is a matter which should engage the best thought of any Board which is charged with the oversight of industry.

Moreover, this matter of giving notice has an important bearing on slack seasons, and seasonal employment generally. Some trades are poignantly seasonal in their very nature. The milliners' is, and all those in which Summer or Winter or Christmas count for much. And any trade is apt to be comparatively busy or idle, as markets change, and the supplies or orders or raw material fluctuate. These non-earning intervals, often unannounced before their arrival, are sharply injurious to the workers. It is quite true that a certain amount of irregularity of employment is inevitable. But it is also true that a good deal of irregularity is avoidable. Some firms and industries have accomplished great things by making stock articles, or in some way controlling the influences which tend to prevent them running full time. It is highly desirable, in the interests of the workers, that these schemes should be encouraged. And, even when the period of running short or closing down is unavoidable it is desirable that the workers should suffer the minimum of inconvenience and loss therefrom.

A firm which faces a period during which its normal output has to be reduced may either temporarily dismiss its entire working force, or continue them on short time work, or combine these two plans. It is sometimes in the interest of the profit-seeking and of the business to select one of these alternatives when it is in the interest of the workers that another alternative should be preferred. If there is much unemployment in other plants and trades the short time plan is likely to be of greater benefit to the employees. But if there is a general demand for workers, so that the force when dismissed can readily find work elsewhere, the short time plan is not the best. Yet it is the one which the management is tempted to employ, for it will keep the working-force intact, and ready to start in full time as soon as the crisis is past, who otherwise might be scattered and lost. The regulation regarding a week's notice, it will be seen, prevents such peremptory action by the management, except when the minimum wage is paid for the short time work. Thus the Board becomes a consulting partner at such a juncture and can use its authority on behalf of its wards.

That introduces the general question of the administration of the law, and suggests the bigger question of the method of administering all labor laws, which seems to me sufficiently important to justify another and later article.

Annual Report of Chief Game Guardian

The wild life situation in Manitoba, both as regards numbers and conditions generally, is exceptionally good according to the annual report of the game branch of the Department of Agriculture. From information gathered systematically by the fieldmen of the department it appears that the season of 1919 was very favorable for all species of game, especially for game birds such as prairie chicken, partridge, other grouse, wild ducks, etc. The mild weather and the comparatively light snowfall of the winter of 1918-1919 with the sudden jump from Winter into Spring, and the continued warm weather, provided exceedingly good weather conditions for a favorable hatching season. The closed season for the prairie chicken, partridge and other grouse therefore resulted in a very decided increase in numbers during the year.

In connection with the reappearance of these birds in large numbers, the chief game guardian makes the interesting observation that these game birds have been coming from the north in large covies, indicating that their extreme scarcity for the past few years may have been due to their migration to the north country and not entirely to the various causes suggested by many sportsmen and others interested, such as predatory animals, birds of prey, wolves, wood-ticks, over-shooting, disease, etc. The department has not succeeded in getting any evidence to show that the birds were diseased, in spite of the fact that it is generally suggested that disease might have had something to do with their migration to the north. The scarcity of prairie chicken and partridge occurred at the same time, and the report notes with pleasure that partridge are again quite plentiful, and it is quite clear that the increase in numbers is greater than could have been brought about by propagation alone. It is, therefore, believed that there was a migration of the partridge similar to that of the prairie chicken.

Good results have been obtained by the continuation of the policy of placing fieldmen in and around the different game preserves with instructions to patrol and look after these areas, set apart as game sanctuaries, also the adjacent territory. It is the business of these men to see that the provisions of the Game Act are properly observed. Convictions secured for violations of the Act during the year were about equal in number to those of the previous year.

The chief game guardian takes pleasure in reporting that citizens of the province generally are evincing an increased interest in the matter of game protection, and this he states is particularly true of sportsmen. Lack of interest and indifference on the part of the public has always been the greatest hindrance to the advancement of the work of the department. There has, in the past, been an inclination on the part of many people to criticise the game laws and their enforcement, but an even greater inclination to refuse assistance to the department by giving information or evidence that would facilitate the work of the department.

The game branch has continued the policy of making as perfect as possible a distribution of game literature every year for the purpose of endeavoring to bring about a co-operative sentiment amongst the people, towards the protection and perpetuation of the useful wild life of the province. The revenue of the department from the sale of licenses was the greatest in the history of the department, and the total revenue was greater than in any previous year with the exception of 1916, in which year there was an unusually large amount collected in fines for violation of the Act. The increase of revenue from the sale of licenses is attributed to the fact that so many Manitoba sportsmen who were overseas during the war had returned to the province and had eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity of again enjoying the sport of the hunting season.

The report offers comment on various species of wild life as follows:

Moose—These animals are reported to be fairly plentiful in the districts congenial to their habits.

Elk or Wapiti—These splendid game animals are reported to have increased very considerably since the season has been closed indefinitely for the taking of them. They are to be found in large numbers in and around the Riding Mountain game preserve and the country lying between Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba. Reports were received that as many as 800 elk had been seen in one bunch in the vicinity of the Riding Mountain preserve during the last season. It is noted with regret, however, that the elk or wapiti transferred from the Winnipeg Street Railway and city park zoos in April, 1917, to the Spruce Woods game preserve have not fared very well. Only four of these animals were seen during the last season, while during the year 1916 they had increased from 7 to 10 animals. The lesson from this report indicates that it will be necessary to engage and place a special game guardian in this game preserve year in and year out.

Jumping Deer—These animals continue to be found in goodly numbers in mostly every part of the province congenial to their habits.

Cariboo—Cariboo are considered quite numerous. They are found in very large numbers in the northern part of the province—New Manitoba—especially west of the Hudson Bay in what is known as "The Barren Lands." The greatest menace to the cariboo is the timber wolf, and the chief game guardian offers the opinion that it will be necessary to devise some plan of keeping down these predatory animals in order that the cariboo may be protected and perpetuated.

Wolves—Prairie and bush wolves are reported to be very destructive to the smaller species of deer, especially jumping deer. It is believed that the very high price now offered for the skins and pelts of these animals is bringing about a better condition.

Wild Ducks and Wild Geese—Both of these were reported to be very plentiful during the past season. The report notes that the ratifying of the international treaty for the protection of all migratory game and non-game birds is apparently working out very favorably, and it offers the observation that in this connection the provisions of the Manitoba Act are almost perfect in that they, practically speaking, say "Thou shalt not sell game."

Crows—The crow has increased in numbers to such an extent and has become such a powerful enemy to all game birds and all insect-eating birds that it was necessary for the government to inaugurate some scheme for the purpose of reducing their numbers. It was for this purpose that the service of the school children of the province were enlisted during the past year under the direction of S. T. Newton, director of the Agricultural Extension Service Branch. Field days were organized and a small bounty offered, the result of which was that 42,100 crows were killed and 327,227 eggs destroyed. A bounty of 10 cents for each crow and 5 cents for each egg was paid, the total amount expended being $20,571. The result of this campaign was considered very satisfactory.

Marten and Fisher—These animals are reported as apparently becoming scarcer every year.

Mink—The supply of these valuable fur animals is considered very good and they are to be found in nearly all parts of the province.

Muskrat—The muskrat, the skin of which has become very high priced, is apparently still holding its own. The chief game guardian, however, states that action must be taken for the protection and perpetuation of this valuable animal and he renews a suggestions

that the open season for the taking of muskrat should be the months of March and April only, and that this should apply throughout the whole province. He points out that skins and pelts taken at this time are much more valuable than those taken at any other time during the year.

Beaver—Beaver are increasing in numbers annually, largely owing to protection afforded them. During the year 103 cases were investigated where destruction of property by beaver was complained of. In several instances permit was given to parties making complaint to kill beaver, and the special beaver permits issued resulted in the taking of 423 of these animals.

Otter and Fox—These are reported to be very scarce.

Game Preserves

During the past year the department was able to placard the boundary line of the Red Deer Point and Birch Island game preserves with iron notices warning hunters and others against trespassing. Accommodation was secured within the limits of the Birch Island preserve for the permanent housing of a fieldman, and the report indicates that it will be necessary to continue and extend this kind of work if the best results are to be obtained.

The fines imposed amounted to $1240, and the cost of prosecutions to $440.

Confiscations—6 Rifles, 5 Shotguns, 3 elk carcass and 3 pieces moose meat, 63 muskrats, 6 ermine skins, 1 mink skin, 4 deer hides, 326 beaver hides, 173 wild ducks, 1 box snipe and plover, 10 traps.

Game birds put into cold storage during the season of 1919: Wild ducks, 9162; wild geese, 14; snipe, 10.

Export Permits Issued Without Fee—For export of moose carcass, 4; for export of jumping deer, 5; permits issued for export of wild ducks and geese, 37.

The above mentioned permits were issued to holders of non-resident hunting licenses.

Heads and antlers, hides and scalps, exported on fee of 25 cents and 10 cents respectively:

Moose heads, 56; elk heads, 35; jumping deer heads, 28; cariboo heads, 4; moose horns, 17; elk horns, 7; jumping deer horns, 13; moose hides, 408; elk hides, 6; jumping deer hides, 88; cariboo hides, 4; moose scalps, 5; elk scalps, 4; jumping deer scalps, 13; cariboo scalps, 1.

Revenue Statement

Fines				$ 1,240.00
Resident big game licenses	5124	@	$ 4.00	20,496.00
Resident game bird licenses	5153	@	1.00	5,153.00
Resident trappers' licenses	2079	@	2.00	4,158.00
Resident fur-traders' licenses	488	@	10.00	4,880.00
Resident dog trainers' licenses	1	@	10.00	10.00
Non-Resident big game licenses, (British Subject)	13	@	15.00	225.00
Non-Resident big game licenses, (non-British Sub.)	12	@	25.00	300.00
Non-Resident game bird licenses, (British Subject)	28	@	10.00	280.00
Non-Resident game bird licenses, (non-British Sub.)	7	@	25.00	175.00
Non-Resident trappers' licenses	17	@	25.00	425.00
Non-Resident fur traders' licenses	5	@	50.00	250.00
Non-Resident dog trainers' licenses	3	@	20.00	60.00
Confiscated hides and pelts				867.72
Confiscated guns, etc.				481.70
Special beaver licenses—pelts	432	@	1.00	432.00
Export permits for heads and antlers	160	@	.25	40.00
Export permits for hides and scalps	529	@	.10	52.90
Cold Storage	6	@	5.00	30.00
Interest				51.61
Other receipts				.25
Total				$39,608.18

Fire Prevention in 1919

(From the Annual Report of Superintendent of Insurance and Fire Commissioner)

The measures taken by this department to reduce the fire waste of the province have been of a very much more extensive character during the past year than during previous years, consequently the large reduction in the fire loss in this province during the year ending December 31, 1919, is a matter of considerable satisfaction to this department. Realizing that to make the largest possible reduction in the total loss, the logical place to make the greatest effort was where the most valuable property was at hazard and where the greatest losses have occurred, considerable attention has been concentrated in Winnipeg, but the rest of the province has in no way been neglected. In view of the relatively small staff at the disposal of the department, efforts were made to induce every body, public or otherwise, who conducted inspections of property, to co-operate with this depratment by either forwarding information regarding fire-hazards or furnishing duplicates of their inspection reports to this department. In this way we have been able to take advantage of the work of other organizations and so supplement to a very large extent the inspections made by this department. The action taken to remove the fire-hazards exposed by such inspection reports has tended to materially reduce the number of fires. A systematic check has been made of the fire fighting units of the province with the object of reducing the fire losses, and careful investigation of fires together with other means inaugurated by this department has been the means of keeping the question of fire prevention before a greatly increased portion of the public.

Fire Prevention Day

The interest and activities shown by the public with regard to Fire Prevention Day, October 9th, was most gratifying—valuable assistance having been rendered in the inspection of properties at that time by fire departments, insurance companies, insurance agents, boy scouts and members of other citizens' bodies.

Fire prevention is largely a matter of inspection to bring to light dangerous fire-hazards, so that they can be remedied, and the arousing of the interest of the public in the question so that they may realize that a very large percentage of fires are easily preventable by the exercise of a little care and forethought and realization that fire waste is a direct tax on the public.

Statistics of Fire Losses

As no detailed figures of fire losses prior to January 1, 1919, are available, a partial comparison only can be made between the fire losses in 1919 and previous years. Heretofore Manitoba has been credited with an average annual (estimated) total property loss by fire of about $3,000,000, or almost $5 per capita. The actual insurance paid in 1917 on property damaged or destroyed by fire amounted to $1,663,310, and in 1918, $1,901,893, according to Dominion Government figures; and the total insurance loss adjusted and unadjusted for 1919, according to reports made to this department, totalled $1,101,672, showing a reduction of $562,638 from 1917 and $800,221 from 1918.

The records of this office compiled from reports made in accordance with the Fires Prevention Act by fire insurance companies, fire insurance adjusters, secretaries of municipalities, chiefs of fire brigades and other officials, all of which have been carefully checked by this department, show a total estimated fire loss for the province during the year 1919 for all properties insured and uninsured amounting to $1,634,862, or $2.677 per capita; of this amount, Winnipeg, where considerably the largest congested hazard exists, contributed $606,479, or about 37 per cent. of the total loss of the province with a per capita loss of $3.303.

In this connection it is interesting to nore that the reports of the Winnipeg Fire Department show a total loss in 1917 of $674,361, and in 1918 $1,546,679, which shows a considerable reduction during 1919.

An analysis of the figures relating to fires in the City of Winnipeg reveals the fact that a large number of small fires in buildings carrying a very large financial hazard were, during the year, attended by the city fire department and extinguished with but little

more than a nominal loss, for which fact the City of Winnipeg and the fire department are to be congratulated.

Encouraging as these figures are, there is still room for considerable reduction in the provincial fire loss, as shown by the fact that 80 per cent. of the losses are classed as "from preventable causes."

During the year there were reported to this department a total of eleven deaths occasioned by fire.

During the year 1,603 fires were reported, of which 795 were in Winnipeg and 808 in the balance of the province.

Special Inspections

In addition to the large number of general inspections made, this department has, whenever time would permit, conducted a system of special inspections in many of the larger towns and villages throughout the province, which resulted in a large number of orders for improvement being issued and which were generally complied with promptly and courteously and no doubt resulted in a considerable improvement in the fire-hazard of the province and helped to awake local authorities to the urgent necessity for co-operation in fire prevention. This system will, in the future, be extended as rapidly as circumstances will permit to cover the whole province.

A large number of fire investigations were conducted by this department which brought to light many suspicious circumstances, but owing largely to the fact that the fires were not reported for some considerable time after their occurrence, no definite conclusions could be arrived at in many cases. Two charges of arson were preferred, but in both cases the persons were acquitted. These investigations were held at widely distributed points, and the fact that the investigations were held will, no doubt, have a salutary effect by bringing the question of fire prevention closely home to a large number of citizens.

Report of Superintendent of Insurance

The annual report of the Provincial Superintendent of Insurance, besides giving the usual statistical information concerning the work of this department during the last year, contains some interesting observations on the efforts of the department to improve conditions in the insurance business as they affected relations between insurance companies and their agents and the insuring public. The most important item concerns the licensing and control of soliciting agents and the report observes that in view of the fact that the general public seems to take surprisingly little intelligent interest in the important matters of insurance and for that reason have to a great extent to depend on the services given and the representations made by Insurance Agents, the Superintendent of Insurance is very strongly of the opinion that steps should be taken to still further improve the status of all soliciting agents. He suggests that failing the inauguration of some system of examination of agents before certificates of authority are issued the amount of the fees charged to agents should be considerably increased so as to insure to a certain extent at least that the agents remaining in the business will, of necessity, learn the fundamental principles of the business and be in a position to afford to the insuring public reliable service and the information that the public is entitled to and for which they pay. The superintendent states that he is pleased to note that sentiments of this kind are spreading among the insurance fraternity. Improvement is noted in the morale of the general agency staff and this is attributed in large measure to the strict administration of the provisions of the Act. The insurance companies supply full lists of their representatives and the follow-up system inaugurated has tended to eliminate non-productive and non-licensed agents and has thus encouraged legitimate agents to become more efficient and therefore more successful. The department has in every way possible endeavored to encourage a feeling of co-operation and mutual confidence between the insuring public and the companies, and the superintendent is pleased to be able to report that during the past year many cases under dispute have

been referred to the department and although strictly speaking they were not matters coming legally within the province of the department, they were treated in the interest of mutual good feeling and no pains were spared to effect a satisfactory adjustment of matters in dispute which it was usually found were caused by misunderstanding. The superintendent reports that so far as the department is informed no single case has arisen during the year where litigation has to be resorted to to insure payment of claim by insurance companies.

The report strongly urges that early steps should be taken towards the standardization of the insurance laws of the various provinces and suggests that there should be active co-operation between the legal committee which it was understood was appointed by the various provincial governments with this object in view and the various provincial superintendents of insurance and representatives of the insurance companies.

Licensed Companies

At November 30, 1919, there were forty-two licensed insurance companies doing business under The Manitoba Insurance Act, classified as follows:

Fire Insurance Companies	1
Fire and Auto Insurance Companies	1
Fire and Hail Insurance Companies	2
Life Insurance Companies	4
Mutual Hail Insurance Companies	1
Plate Glass Insurance Companies	1
Mutual Fire Insurance Companies	7
Fraternal Societies	24
Marine Insurance Companies	1
Total	42

Registered Companies

At November 30, 1919, there were one hundred and seventy registered companies doing business under The Manitoba Insurance Act, classified as follows:

Fire Insurance Companies	38
Fire and Hail Insurance Companies	3
Fire and Miscellaneous Insurance Companies	56
Fire and Life Insurance Companies	6
Life Insurance Companies	31
Guarantee, Accident, Sickness and Plate Glass Insurance Companies	16
Registered Mail Insurance Companies	1
Live Stock Insurance Companies	1
Fraternal Societies	10
Steam Boiler Insurance Companies	1
Inland Transportation and Marine Insurance Companies	1
Plate Glass Insurance Companies	4
Hail Insurance Companies	2
Total	170

Licensing of Agents

Up to November 30, 1919, the department issued 4,135 agents' licenses, made up as follows:

Fire	1,294
Mutual Fire	139
Life	1,530
All Other Classes	1,172
Total	4,135

Settlers' Animal Purchase Act

(From Annual Report of Department of Agriculture and Immigration for 1919)

This is the fourth year of operation under the "Settlers' Animal Purchase Act," familiarly known as "The Cow Scheme," and our experience covering this period would indicate that the forecasts made with respect to the influence which this policy would exercise in developing cattle raising in the country where this Act operates, were not exaggerated.

While not in the least underestimating the financial assistance given under the Act and the number of cattle distributed, there is another wider aspect to the "Settlers' Animal Purchase Act," namely, that is has centered an interest in cattle raising in this new country, and has enabled a practical demonstration that this branch of farming can be profitably engaged in in this country, and as a result establish prosperous communities.

While the number of cows distributed this year was not as large as in former years, there are at least two very good reasons for this, namely, the unsettled labor condition during the period of the year when ordinarily a large bulk of the cows would have been delivered, also the scarcity of cows suitable for distribution offered for sale during the year.

As the work of distribution progresses naturally we profit from experience and become more rigid in our method of selection. This lessens the number of cows available, and the fact that more farmers are going in for live stock raising provides a market for cows which would otherwise be available for distribution under the "Settlers' Animal Purchase Act."

As recommended in our report last year, the area under which this Act operates was extended, and a number of cows were delivered to settlers at Benito, Meadow, Portage, Million, etc.

While no one breed has enjoyed preference over any other breed, as far as possible car loads sent into these territories have been as uniform in type and quality as it was possible to procure them. Apart from the advantage which the individual settler would get from this method of selection in his endeavor to establish a herd, it is a step toward the development of "community breeding." "Community breeding" wherever adopted has been highly successful and has made a reputation for that district as a place to secure typical specimens of the breed in which they have specialized.

It is also an advantage when the purchase of good sires is undertaken, and enables the propagation of tried and desirable strains within the breed, as well as the exchange of sires for this purpose at the minimum of cost.

The operations under the "Settlers' Animal Purchase Act" have been so fully outlined in previous reports that is it not necessary to repeat here. Up to the present we have 4,605 cows, with a increase in progeny of approximately 10,000, distributed among the members of 116 associations, with a total membership of 1,128.

The total cost of animals supplied amounts to $407,176.37, making an average per cow of $88.42. This does not include the values of the calves. As previously explained, this cash value does not represent the total benefits of the "Settlers' Animal Purchase Act." When it is realized that the basis of this scheme is a co-operative one—and that men and women of varying experiences, ages, and nationalities, all come together to form societies and benefit as a result—by participation under this scheme, one will appreciate at least to some extent its influence in community building.

Furthermore, by constantly meeting, discussing live stock problems, and indeed farming problems in general, it can be seen what a wonderful force this enactment has been towards disseminating agricultural information among the settlers in this new territory.

Constant inspection by officials from the department has kept us closely informed on the care which the cows receive and the condition which they are in. Through personal contact in this way with owners of cows, valuable information is given to the owner on care, management, market requirements, etc., and in addition the department is kept in close touch with the settlers' problems in these new districts.

The "Settlers' Animals Purchase Act" has filled a much needed want and has now become practically self sustaining, a condition which was anticipated when the policy was adopted.

Annual Report of Railway Commissioner

The annual report of Hon. T. C. Norris as Railway Commissioner for Manitoba states that due to the various financial problems arising out of transition from an atmosphere of war to that of peace, very little new railway work was undertaken in the province during the year, and the mileage of railway lines in the province is unchanged from that reported a year ago.

The Canadian Pacific railway graded a branch from Russell north about twelve miles to Assessippi and steel will probably be laid during the forthcoming season and the line operated.

The commissioner is pleased to be able to state that the province throughout the year has been fully protected by the Dominion authorities with respect to the guarantee of certain debentures and stock issues of the Canadian Northern Railway Company, starting in 1904.

As was previously explained, the Government of Canada have acquired all the common stock of the Canadian Northern Company and the ownership and control of its assets are virtually behind the undertaking and operating the whole system as a govenrment venture, and therefore must of necessity, in the interests of the whole Dominion, see to it that all the liabilities of the several provinces are fully protected for all time. Whatever success or failure may result in the assets of the company, the commissioner is satisfied that in so far as the Province of Manitoba is concerned the position has become very materially improved with respect to the guarantees of the province. In addition to having a first mortgage lien on all the lines with respect to which stock or debenture guarantees were given, this province now has the additional protection and security of the whole of Canada. The report contains an interesting review concerning the Hudson Bay railway, which is reproduced in full as follows:

The Hudson Bay Railway

I pointed out in my last report that during the year 1918 some progress was made in construction work on this line. Track had been laid up to Mile 332, and grading nearly completed to Port Nelson. Very little work was performed during the year 1919. The Minister of Railways, in replying to questions addressed to him in the House of Commons on October 9 last, said:

> "A small amount of ballasting only has been done on the Hudson Bay railway during this year. The contract for ties let in May to be delivered on the Hudson Bay railway were for renewals on that line. The work of completing the railway from mileage 332 to mileage 424 at Port Nelson, will be gone on with as soon as the financial condition of the country will permit."

The Senate of Canada during its session early in the year 1919 appointed a special committee to investigate the navigability of Hudson's Bay and Straits, and other matters, as the result of a discussion on the building of the Hudson's Bay Railway. The committee reported that considerable information had been gathered, and asked for power to sit after the close of the then session, and to report at the next session of parliament. In October of the same year this committee submitted a further report, that it had not had time to consider the evidence collected, and recommended that it be empowered to sit during the parliamentary recess and to present a report at the next session.

The minister of justice stated in the house of commons, November 10th last, in answer to an enquiry, that the approximate estimate to complete track laying from Kettle Rapids, Mile 332, to Port Nelson, Mile 424, with permanent structures over Limestone and Kisemachisk rivers, using 80-pound steel, ballasting, train filling, erecting tanks and telegraph line, is $1,750,000. In answer to the question, "Will the financial condition of the country now permit of this cost being incurred?" the minister said that work on the Hudson Bay Railway and certain other public works was closed down during the war.

I reproduce the foregoing extracts from certain of the proceedings of the house of commons, and the Senate of Canada, firstly, to record certain facts, and secondly, to avail myself of the opportunity of urging upon the federal authorities the importance of fully completing, equipping and operating the line of railway to the tide waters of Hudson's

Bay at the earliest possible date, in order to afford the people of this province a convenient and less costly outlet for their products to the European markets of the world, and to assure and facilitate the development of the great natural resources of Northern Manitoba.

Some mineral development took place in the northern portion of the province during the year. Considerable development work was done on the Flin Flon mine, which is situated about 70 miles from The Pas. It is estimated that the property contains, approximately, 20,000,000 tons of copper ore. Negotiations for the building of a line of railway from The Pas to the mine are said to be in progress.

Cooling of Milk and Cream

By L. A. Gibson, Dairy Commissioner for Manitoba

Now is the time to prepare for the hot weather in June, July and August. Thousands of dollars are lost annually to the producers of milk and cream on account of its not being properly cooled. When milk or cream is not properly cooled there develop bacteria that produce bad flavors, and this lowers the grade of the manufactured article.

Every dairyman who produces and delivers a high grade of milk and cream raises the average quality of all the milk and cream, and as a result a better product reaches the consumer.

Proper cooling is just as important with cream as with milk, if not more so, especially as cream usually is delivered less frequently, and therefore has greater opportunity to undergo undesirable fermentations.

Proper cooling is easily done with little additional equipment or labor. Ice can be had on every farm in Manitoba. In some cases it may be necessary to ship it in, but it will pay to do so, not only for cooling milk and cream, but on account of the various uses it can be put to on the farm, such as keeping meat, butter, etc., and the making of ice cream.

When ice is not available, water pumped for the use of horses and other live stock should first flow through the milk cooling tank. The inlet should be placed at the bottom so that the water flows in and around the milk cans and then out at the overflow near the top into the stock tank. The water in the tank should be changed frequently. Unless the tank is protected from the direct rays of the sun, the temperature of the water is raised several degrees, and thereby the cooling capacity is considerably reduced.

Watch the Cans

There is nearly as much damage done to milk and cream by not watching the cans closely as there is from lack of cooling. Do not put the cream or milk into cans after being returned from the creamery or factory before thoroughly washing them. Although they are washed at the creamery, they become stale and smell bad usually before reaching the farm. Wash and thoroughly scald all cream cans before filling.

To produce the best milk and cream, adopt the following simple measures:

1. Keep the cows clean. The udders and flanks of the cow should be brushed regularly to remove dirt and dust. If the udder is wiped with a damp cloth just before milking much dirt and dust will be kept out of the milk.

2. All utensils should be clean and sterilized. All pails and cans should be washed with a brush, cleaning powder, and finally rinsed with boiling water or sterilized with steam.

3. Keep the milk and cream as cold as possible, by putting the can containing it into a tank of cold water and ice and stirring frequently. Milk and cream should be held at a temperature of 50 degrees F.

4. The can of milk or cream should never be left uncovered so that flies or dirt blown by the wind can enter.

5. Straining out the flies and dirt from milk does not leave the milk in a wholesome and clean condition. Bacteria when once introduced into milk by unclean methods will spoil the milk.

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Transportation in Northern Manitoba

(From the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Northern Manitoba)

The report contains an interesting survey of transportation in the far north and notes that in a territory of vast distance, served by only 330 miles of railway and 28 miles of Summer road, the problem of transportation is indeed serious. Apart from the limited service of the Hudson Bay railway, the method of transportation is still the same as in the earliest days, that is, by canoe in summer and dog-train in winter.

The report points out that transportation facilities should be provided if the business expansion which would result from the resources which would be tapped would be sufficiently great to justify the expenditure involved, but not otherwise. The situation is then discussed under the three headings of:

1. Roads.
2. Water Transportation.
3. Railways.

Two summer roads have been constructed by the provincial government—one 10¾ miles long from Mile 82 on the Hudson Bay railway to Herb Lake and the other 18 miles long from Sturgeon Landing to Lake Athapapuskow. Both were constructed to aid the development of the mining camps. In order to maintain these roads it is necessary to do work on them after the spring break-up every year. Considerable work will be required on both roads this year. A winter road is being cut from Mile 42 on the Hudson Bay railway to Copper Lake, where important mining properties are being developed. A landing stage will be constructed at the south end of Herb Lake in the spring. The report predicts that owing to the rapidly increasing number of requests for roads and supervision of road construction it will soon be necessary to have a road engineer with permanent headquarters at The Pas.

The responsibility for public works on navigable lakes and streams is assumed by the Dominion Government and the report therefor deals briefly with this subject. It notes that the sum of $5,000 was granted to carry on work which would render Goose Creek and Rat Creek more easily navigable for canoes, and that this work has been successfully completed with the result that the route from Sturgeon Landing to the mining area is much less arduous than hitherto. Dredging was continued on the entrance from Cumberland lake to the Saskatchewan river, and the report states that the whole question of the navigibility of Cumberland lake must be taken up at an early date and in a much more comprehensive manner if the lake is to be saved from wholesale silting up. Contract was let for a $19,000 dock at The Pas, but the contractors have not yet commenced operations.

The report notes that in spite of a well-directed campaign by practically everyone interested, no further progress was made during the year towards the completion of the Hudson Bay railway. The campaign is being continued and every effort will be made to ensure that the work will be proceeded with in 1920 in order that the resources of the bay and district be made accessible to capital interested in their developemnt and another stage reached in the completion of this long projected route to the European markets.

There is a reference to the projected railway to the Flin Flon property, which notes that discussions have taken place between prospective purchasers and the Canadian National Railway Board and representatives of the provincial government. A definite understanding was reached that the railway would be built providing a purchase were completed involving smelter operations on a sufficiently large scale to provide satisfactory tonnage for railway operations. At the date of the report the deal had not yet been completed. It is all-important that this railway be projected east of Lake Athapapuskow in order that a large area of the mineral belt as feasible be traversed by the railway. While the railway will primarily serve the Flin Flon and Mandy properties it must also be regarded as a development railway for the whole western section of the mineral belt. The report also deals with the question of communication and contains a recommendation for the installation of a system of wireless telephones between The Pas and the various mining camps and other settlements within a working radius. It is suggested that a trial system be installed between The Pas and Sturgeon Landing and that its possibilities be fully tested before any further expenditure be incurred.

Road Work in 1919

(From Annual Report of the Good Roads Board).

During the year 1919 more construction work was accomplished than in any other year in the history of "The Good Roads Act." The feeling for some time so prevalent in the minds of the people throughout the province, but which has been to a large extent subordinated to questions directly pertaining to prosecuting the war, soon asserted itself after the successful termination of that tremendous conflict. The number of municipalities that have availed themselves of the provisions of the Act, laid out systems of roads and successfully carried debenture by-laws for road improvement during the year, is conclusive evidence of the extent to which the people of the rural municipalities are willing to go to secure good roads.

The labor situation throughout the year was not at all satisfactory, and no doubt prevented the accomplishment of a considerably larger amount of work. Many municipal councils fell short of their contemplated program. The use of road building machinery, which is being advocated by the board in municipalities where it is at all possible, will obviate to some extent at least the acute labor situation and consequent high prices. The employment of such machinery should be adopted from an economical point of view, as it is possible to construct good serviceable roads in many parts of this province at a much reduced cost than by the ordinary team and scraper method.

It was found necessary for the board to temporarily engage the services of a number of additional engineers for a portion of the season, in order to cope with increased work involved in assisting municipal councils in planning out their road systems and preparing reports and estimates of proposed work, which are required before submitting debenture by-laws to the ratepayers, besides directing the construction work being carried on in other municipalities.

All statements of expenditures of the municipalities on works executed during the year were carefully reviewed and checked by the board before recommending the same to the department for the payment of the government's share thereof. All such statements were certified by an engineer of the board and accompanied by the necessary statutory declaration of the secretary-treasurer of the municipality.

Statistics of Year's Work

The following is a summary of facts concerning the department's work:

Miles of roads gravelled in 1919	143.75
Miles of roads improved as earth roads in 1919	441.56
Number of concrete structures built in 1919	58
Number of timber structures built in 1919	4
Number of timber structures on permanent abutments built in 1919	2
Amount expended by municipalities on roads for year 1919 on which government percentage was paid	$474,502.01
Amount expended by municipalities on bridges for year 1919 on which government percentage was paid	155,086.75
Total amount expended by Municipalities on roads and bridges for year 1919 on which government percentage was paid	629,588.76
Amount expended by municipalities on roads since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919, on which government percentage was paid	2,460,513.41
Amount expended by municipalities on bridges since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919, on which government percentage was paid	503,276.75
Total amount expended by municipalities on roads and bridges since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919, on which government percentage was paid	2,963,790.16

Amount paid by government to municipalities on roads during year 1919	$231,135.26
Amount paid by government to municipalities on bridges during year 1919	74,050.27
Total amount paid by government to municipalities on roads and bridges during year 1919	$305,185.53
Amount paid by government to municipalities on roads since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919	1,069,113.73
Amount paid by government to municipalities on bridges since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919	227,267.53
Total amount paid by government to municipalities on roads and bridges since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919	1,296,381.26
Estimated cost of roads authorized during the year 1919	$7,098,584.84
Estimated cost of bridges authorized during year 1919	143,285.00
Total estimated cost of roads and bridges authorized during year 1919	$7,241,869.84
Estimated cost of roads authorized since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919	11,649,280.84
Estimated cost of bridges authorized since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919	769,223.00
Total estimated cost of roads and bridges authorized since the inception of the Act to November 30th, 1919	12,418,503.84
Mileages of roads authorized under Act during year 1919	2,796.03
Number of bridges authorized under Act during year 1919	47
Mileage of roads authorized under Act since its inception to November 30th, 1919	5,028.99
Number of bridges authorized under Act since its inception to November 30th, 1919, exclusive of those on good roads systems	298

The following is the list of municipalities in which debenture by-laws have been passed showing the amount of debentures issued:

Municipality	Amount of Debenture Issue
Albert	$133,700.00
Archie	111,756.00
Birtle	166.000.00
Cornwallis	92,300.00
Dauphin	157,000.00
Dauphin	13,000.00
Ellice	49,000.00
Ellice	31,400.00
Eriksdale	100,000.00
Grey	93,000.00
Macdonald	177,800.00
Miniota	166,174.00
Minitonas	10[illegible],000.00

Oakland	$106,000.00
Pipestone	215,000.00
Portage la Prairie	171,960.00
Ritchot	66,334.00
Rockwood	224,000.00
Springfield	309,000.00
Sifton	59,800.00
Swan River	108,000.00
St. Andrews	183,000.00
Ste. Anne	61,495.00
St. Clements	40,000.00
St. Francis Xavier	55,000.00
St. Paul East	9,000.00
St. Paul West	20,000.00
St. Vital	138,000.00
Wallace	198,000.00
Westbourne	129,800.00
Woodlands	25,000.00
Woodworth	195,000.00
Total	$3,705,519.00

Motion Picture Censorship

The annual report of the Manitoba board of moving picture censors for the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1919, shows that a total of 5,788 films, comprising 2,031 film subjects, were censored during the year. This was exclusive of advertising films and slides.

During the year the department took over the operating work in the screening of films for censorship and two returned soldiers were appointed as operators. The salary of one of these men is borne by the Province of Saskatchewan, which has a censor representative sitting with the Manitoba board. This work had previously been done by operators from the Winnipeg Film Exchange.

A total of 71 pictures were rejected during the year and eliminations were made from 488 pictures. In the whole year there were three appeals from the decision of the censor board. In two of these cases the decision of the censor board was held and in one case the decision was reversed by the appeal board.

The reels listed as rejected represent pictures which may be classified as follows:

Sex dramas, of a sensual, suggestive and immortal type	21
Melodrama, of a morbid, sensational, or brutal character	3
Light dramas, suggestive and coarse	1
War drama, treated from sex angle, suggestive and unfavorable to Allies	3
Western drama, lawlessness exploited, crime, shooting and murder	7
Serials, brutality	1
Comedy, vulgarity, suggestiveness, burlesquing crime, religion, sex relations of law	34
Propaganda, dealing with race suicide, unsuitable for promiscuous showing	1

The report notes that no complaints have been received by the board during the last year regarding the moral tone of moving pictures shown in the province. Some compaints, however, were received about advertising and in two cases theatres were warned that their licenses would be cancelled if there was any more objectionable advertising.

The board has been in touch with the community clubs in Winnipeg and throughout the province and has supplied lists of films suitable for family showing, to aid the selection of programmes in suburban theatres and in the theatres through the country. They also had a meeting with the Ministerial Association, who seemed satisfied that the work was being carried on in a satisfactory manner.

The Manitoba Board of Censors consists of Mrs. Maude S. Osborne, Mrs. Valance Patriarche and Mr. T. A. D. Bevington, chairman.

Dominion-Provincial Employment Service in 1919

(From Annual Report of Immigration and Employment Branch, Department of Agriculture and Immigration)

In compliance with The Employment Offices Co-ordination Act, the Provincial Government of Manitoba opened in March, 1919, employment offices in Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon and Dauphin, as well as a provincial clearing house for employment in the City of Winnipeg. This was done for the purpose of endeavoring to meet any unsatisfied demand for labor or employment by drawing upon any supply within the province and when such was not available by securing labor or employment through the Dominion clearing house from any surplus in other provinces, and to collect information as to the condition of the labor market.

Following this action on June 1st, 1919, the Act to establish government employment bureaus, assented to March 6th, 1918, was proclaimed and became law. This Act made illegal all employment business where fees for securing labor or employment were collected.

The undertaking to meet the demands of employers and men throughout the province was a large one and entailed much difficulty, and considerable adverse criticism was offered, but as time goes on this criticism is diminishing and favorable comments are increasingly meeting us. This is true not only of the farm labor bureau but of the other offices as well.

One thing, however, constantly works against the farmers of Manitoba, and that is the cheap rate on the railways for those going to employment. There is no reduction on fares up to 116 miles, that is to places where the fare is less than four dollars. Then there is the flat rate of $4 for those going anywhere between 116 and 400 miles. So that men who pay $4 for transportation wish to go as far as possible for the amount paid and choose Saskatchewan. In spite of this, however, Manitoba farmers in general have expressed appreciation of the work done by the farm labor bureau in their benefit.

In particular the office has been commended not for setting, but for in large measure regulating the wage and that at a good fair rate, first as monthly wage for the season and later as daily wage for harvest and threshing. By this means the men were kept more steadily at work and did not shift from place to place for the bigger wage as in former years.

Picking the Right Man for the Right Job

During the rush of seeding and harvest it is almost impossible to do as much interviewing as we should like to do, yet a good measure of this is done, so that to a greater extent than under the old system of private agencies, the right men are sent to the right jobs.

In other classes of work such as bush and lumber camps the offices are giving good service. Employers tell us that they have been saved many hundreds of dollars by securing their men through our service, not only because of the reduced railway fares, and the fact that no fees are charged, but more especially in that the "three-gang" system is being eliminated. Formerly the men who were sent to railway or bush camps did not stay on the job very long. Not because the men were not giving good service and not because they were not satisfied with the work but because the private employment agent made his returns from constant turnovers of labor. The foremen—who stood in with the agent—could for little or no cause dismiss the men, who must then return to the city for other work. By this method there were often actually three gangs, one going, one working and one returning. This has caused much unrest among the men and no doubt accounts in large measure for the I.W.W.-ism that was found among this class of laborers. Through the employment service this shifting of labor will be greatly reduced, men will be more steadily occupied with the result to himself of larger earnings and an improved spirit, and to his employer a better service and financial gain.

The service deals with all classes of labor, skilled and unskilled, soldiers and civilians, men and women, all find employment through the service, and situations both casual and permanent are provided.

The service is just being established. Much remains to be done in the way of perfecting the work, but great good has already been accomplished. At a time like this when

there is so much unrest anything that tends to place men at congenial work and to give them employment of a more permanent character will do much for the individual, the home, the industrial interests and the nation. This the Employment Service has been organized to accomplish.

Placements Made to November 30, 1919

439 Main Street, farm help	17,057
220 Bannatyne Avenue, trades and labor	18,892
177 Henry Avenue, bush and construction	7,494
189 Pacific Avenue, women	5,828
Total for Winnipeg offices	49,271
Portage la Prairie	5,309
Brandon	2,475
Dauphin	853
Deloraine	385
Total for Province	58,293

Report of Dairy Commissioner

General Comment

The past year has been one of the most difficult that the dairymen of Manitoba have experienced. The shortage of labor, especially labor suitable for dairying, and the high price of grain militated against the production of dairy products. The unsettled labor conditions which started in May and lasted for six weeks completely tied up express shipments, consequently the farmers could not ship their cream, resulting in the seven butter factories in Winnipeg closing for that period. Creameries in other parts of the province were also seriously affected. During this period calves were allowed to run with the cows, and the production of dairy products were curtailed for the balance of the year with considerable loss to the dairyman. A very early Fall also seriously affected the pastures of the province. Had it not been for these conditions the output of creamery butter would have amounted to 10,000,000 pounds, but in spite of all these disadvantages the dairy industry has made substantial progress during the year.

The increased production of dairy products combined with the increased value in price amounted to $5,001,719.25 over the previous year, and the total value of all dairy products produced in the province for the year amounted to $16,789,892.51. The increase in production has been practically uniform throughout the province. Particular mention might be made of the southern portion of the province, also the district lying between Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba. Three years ago there was very little dairying done in this territory, now several creameries are successfully operated and large quantities of milk and sweet cream are shipped during the Winter months to the Winnipeg market. From one point on the Oak Point line there will be about 200 8-gallon cans of milk shipped daily all Winter to the Winnipeg market.

Amount and Value of Dairy Products

The following table gives the quantities, average prices and values of milk and milk products for the years 1918 and 1919:

1918

Product.	Pounds.	Price (cents)	Total Value.
Creamery butter	8,450,132	45.0	$3,802,559.40
Dairy butter	9,703,337	37.0	3,590,234.69
Cheese	973,612	21.8	212,247.41
	19,127,081		7,605,041.50
Milk	117,737,040	2.0	2,955,740.80
Sweet cream in lbs. butter fat	2,315,832	53.0	1,227,390.96
Total			$11,788,173.26

1919.

Product	Pounds	Price (cents)	Total value
Creamery butter	8,256,711	54.0	$4,458,623.94
Dairy butter	10,804,225	44.0	4,753,859.00
Cheese	679,855	26.4	179,481.72
	19,740,791		9,391,964.66
Milk	150,625,021	3.9	5,874,375.81
Sweet cream in lbs. butter fat	2,457,342	62.0	1,523,552.04
Total			$16,789,892.51

As the volume of creamery butter production is perhaps the most accurate indicator we have of the development of dairying from year to year, a few figures are given below to gauge this development. Following are the number of creameries operated in the province, the output in pounds, average price, and the annual increase for the past eight years:

Year	No. of Creameries.	Butter Output (pounds)	Average Price per Pound (cents)	Selling Value at Creameries
1912	20	2,931,138	28.0	$ 820,718.64
1913	36	3,929,622	27.5	1,080,646.05
1914	35	4,761,355	26.5	1,261,759.07
1915	35	5,839,667	29.0	1,693,503.43
1916	37	6,574,510	31.0	2,038,098.10
1917	41	7,526,356	38.5	2,897,647.06
1918	42	8,450,132	45.0	3,802,559.40
1919	44	8,256,711	54.0	4,458,623.94

It was feared in some quarters a year ago that the dairy industry would receive a set-back on account of the high price of grain and the scarcity of suitable labor for the dairy. The above figures prove that these fears were unwarranted, and the prospects for increased production are exceedingly bright with the exception of the domestic milk supply for the city trade, which at present is in more or less of an unsettled condition on account of prices.

Cream Grading

Cream grading and payment on the basis of the quality of cream delivered has been most strongly advocated by the dairy branch for some years past, and the report notes that this system is now an almost universal custom of the trade in Manitoba, although it is not carried on as efficiently in some creameries as the results of this system would warrant. Keen competition between the creameries and the condition of the butter market of the last two years are held responsible for some of the creamery men not paying the attention to cream grading which it deserves with the result that their product does not show the same improvement as that of others who adhered conscientiously to the cream grading system.

Poor quality cream, the report points out, means poor quality butter. The standard of butter is largely set by the poorest quality cream used in its manufacture. It is just as reasonable and necessary to grade cream as to grade grain and the dairyman who produces a sweet-flavored cream that will make a first-class quality of butter undoubtedly should be paid a superior price for his superior article. The grading of cream has played a bigger part in the problems that relate to creamery management than almost any other factor, and it is noted that since this system was introduced the average quality of the cream received at the creameries has been greatly improved. The report advocates that the spread in prices between the different grades should be still further increased in order to provide a greater percentage to the producer.

Intelligent cream grading necessitates the establishment of definite cream grades and with that object in view a meeting of creamerymen was convened at Winnipeg on April 2, 1919, for the purpose of thoroughly discussing the whole matter. A definite set of standards was adopted and all creamery operators on the province were notified with a request that they should cooperate voluntarily by adopting these standards in their business.

High Temperature Pasteurization

The report notes that the system of high temperature pasteurization which has been advocated by the dairy branch for some time past has proved even more successful than was at first anticipated. The benefit derived in the keeping quality of the butter made from cream so treated has been amply demonstrated and the extra expense incurred by creameryman in buying the equipment required for proper pasteurization is now considered a good financial investment. In 1918 the department adopted the policy of issuing certificates only on butter made from properly pasteurized cream and the Dairy Commissioner reports with pleasure that 94 per cent. of all creamery butter manufactured in the province is now made from properly pasteurized cream.

The report shows the great increase in the grading work carried on by the dairy branch, there having been 7240 churnings graded in 1919 as compared with 2223 in 1914. In addition to the grading done in Winnipeg, carload lots for shipment out of the province were graded at the creameries at Brandon, Shoal Lake, Russell and Dauphin and it is noted that in performing this work the graders covered a distance of 10,000 miles. The work of creamery instruction was continued during the year and this work proved of much value to creameries who for one reason and another found themselves receiving quantities of cream beyond the capacity of their plants.

Two new creameries came into operation during the year, that of the Crescent Creamery Company at Vita and the Dominion Creamery at Winkler. Shellmouth and Erickson Creameries, which were closed for some time, reopened during the year and both have done a good business. Belmont creamery was burned in the Spring of 1919, but being a well-managed concern it was re-built and in operation within six weeks after the fire. The report concludes that there is still considerable room for further improvement in the quality of the cream delivered to the creameries and that only by an educational campaign among the producers and a strict system of grading can the best results be realized.

Cheese Factory Inspection

The work of inspection of cheese factories and of instruction among farmers supplying milk to these factories was carried on. The yield of milk during the year was not quite as good as in 1918 on account of the hot Summer, which had a bad effect on the cattle, and the cold weather which settled in early caused an unusually rapid falling off in the milk supply. In spite of these adverse circumstances the quality of cheese was quite satisfactory. Much advice and assistance was given to farmers and the report urges that it will be necessary to grow cultivated grasses, corn, sunflowers, green oats and peas for silage in order to provide farmers and dairymen with the feed necessary to keep the supply of milk at a proper standard under all conditions.

In connections with the general educational work of the branch, 101 meetings were held during the year, with a total attendance of 6399.

Have Your Seed Grain Tested

Much of the grain that will be used this year for seed was damaged last Fall by frost, weathering or sprouting. Before this is sown, it should be tested to determine if it will grow. If this cannot be done conveniently at home, the samples may be sent to the Manitoba Agricultural College, where they will be tested free of charge.

If possible, the samples should be from seed cleaned ready for the drill. Where this is not convenient, send a one pound sample. It will be cleaned before testing and the report will state what screens to use in cleaning and what percentage should be taken out.

In securing the samples, care should be taken to mix the grain in the lower part of the bin with that nearer the surface in order to obtain a representative sample.

Address all samples: Manitoba Agricultural College, Winnipeg.

The Manitoba Minimum Wage Board

By J. W. MacMillan

(Article No. 3)

Everyone knows how frequently good legislation is nullified by lack of enforcement, and how often it is rendered irksome and unpopular by the wrong kind of enforcement. These regulations had to face the test of practice. Would they be obeyed? Or, being obeyed, would they prove satisfactory for the purpose back of them? And, further, would the same harmony and co-operation which had been attained and employed in framing them continue after they had gone into effect as the laws to govern the industries concerned?

The Act creating the board provided that the administration of the regulations should be done by the board, with the assistance of the Provincial Bureau of Labor. It proved an effective partnership, for the bureau had been enforcing regulations somewhat similar for some years, and supplied the practical experience which the board lacked. Without the willing and sympathetic assistance of the corps of inspectors and inspectresses of the bureau these new orders, affecting wages, hours and conditions of labor, could not have gotten off to anything like such a good start. Thus the procedure came to be that the bureau did the work of enforcement, under the supervision of the board.

Must Be Flexible.

Labor legislation has this characteristic to an unusual degree that it must be flexible. The industrial arena is one which lives, and grows and changes. An iron regulation, rigidly imposed on all industrial establishments, without variation or modification, would sometimes prove a strait-jacket, and hinder the legitimate activity and progress of business. Foreseeing this, in each set of regulations had been included the notice that the board was ready to grant a modification of any regulation at any time when it was convinced that it should do so.

The Act which established the board was passed with the intention of doing justice to a certain class of workers. As it happened, however, it accomplished another end of great importance. It set an example of the right method of bringing the authority of the state into the industrial realm. Manitoba did not invent the plan it used. Several of the states, as Wisconsin and New York, had been using it for years, and it had also been employed by the government of the Dominion for the oversight of the railways. But it was new in Canada to this extent, that it was the first instance of administration of labor laws by means of a commission. And that is the wise and effective way of making and enforcing labor laws.

Where a Commission is Needed.

There are three ways in which a legislature may proceed in the regulation of industry. First it may write its will exhaustively upon the statute book, including all the minutiae of detail required for the information and guidance of the industries. Second, it may legislate in general terms, leaving the particular orders to its corps of inspectors. Third, it may lay down the principles in the law, and appoint a commission for their interpretation and enforcement. The third way is, I think, the right way.

The first way is not often attempted. It makes the laws exceedingly long and involved. It makes any alterations of these laws difficult, for a legislature meets only once a year, and then each amendment has to run the gauntlet of committee meetings, the elaborate arguments of the interested parties or their lawyers, and the several readings and debates in the house. This is like driving a motor car through crowded streets by means of a lever fifty feet long attached to the steering gear.

The second way, and one in much more general use, is to commit to expert employees of the government the task of defining the laws and enforcing them. It is greatly to the credit of the inspectors in the several Bureaus of Labor in Canada, where they are commonly called upon to use their own judgment in ordering costly changes or additions in plants, that none of them, so far as I know, has ever been so much as suspected of taking a bribe from an employer of labor. In Manitoba the entire staff of the Bureau of Labor was as far above suspicion as Caesar's wife. Nevertheless this system of law enforcement does

allow for more temptation than is desirable. It puts an amount of responsibility upon the inspector which should be borne by shoulders having a higher position in the government. Besides, it is impossible but that one inspector will differ from another, and the divergent personal equations may make trouble. A third difficulty is that it does not allow of the employer concerned having the opportunity of presenting his case, when he is unwilling to carry out any order, which he thinks is his due.

Slower But More Efficient.

The third way, which is the commission method, is a little slower and a little more expensive that the others, but it is worth the difference. It provides that the particularizing of the principles laid down in the law shall be done by the commission after consultation with the persons interested. A conference may be held, and it is best, when the matter is one of general application, that a public hearing is duly advertised and held, when anyone who wishes may state his mind.

Suppose the question is one of factory lighting. It will be found that there are almost infinite varieties in the way in which factories are lighted. The prevailing tendency nowadays is not to be niggardly with light. Some employers will flood their workrooms with brilliant light, so that every corner is vividly illumined, and think that thus they have done the wisest thing. Others, with equal desire to reach the best results, will shroud the room in gloom except where a shaded lamp pours a jet of radiance like a searchlight upon the work in the hands of each operative. And between these two extreme lies many degrees and sorts of different lighting. Now, there are books written by college-bred physicists on the art of factory lighting. The candle power, the diffusion of light, the angle and color of it, and many other items of knowledge lie within the four corners of a proper lighting code. The inspector reads such books. So do the employers. Each of them achieves the zeal of newly found knowledge, and each is unwilling to admit that he is wrong. The thing to do is to bring them together, along with others interested, and with the testimony of experts of high standing, if necessary, and get the code determined.

Can Use Discretion.

Or again, and this is an instance of what happened in Manitoba, a firm complains that it cannot possibly obey a certain regulation. It is required, by this regulation, that not more than one-fourth of its employees shall be under eighteen years of age. It is a wise regulation, and the firm in question does not dispute its wisdom. But it cannot get the adult workers it requires. There is a scarcity of workers everywhere just at this time. The force at work, gathered together before the limiting regulation was thought of, is about one-half under eighteen. True, most of them are at least sixteen. Some of them have been at the trade long enough to have gained facility in it, with increase of wages, and the prospect of continuing at it profitably for years. I take it that no single official, carrying out laws made by an authority higher than his own, would venture to permit their being even temporarily disregarded. But the commission which made this law is in a securer position. It becomes convinced that the application is reasonable and grants a permit exempting the firm for a period of three months. If, after three months, the commission is convinced that the firm had done its best to secure the needed proportion of adult workers and has been unable to do so, it may extend the permit. Or, it may modify the permit, and set the proportion at another figure for a certain time.

In that way the state, through its commission, is always ready to help a deserving establishment. It is always in session, potentially, and can take up an emergent matter at short notice. And the fact that it shows consideration for the misfortunes and mishaps of an employer helps to smooth out the wrinkles in industry even though it may not grant the desired concession.

There is likely to be much more labor legislation passed during the next year or two in Canada than has been passed in all preceding time. In each of the matters which will be dealt with, mothers' allowances, unemployment insurance, health insurance, minimum wages, maximum hours, or what not, the carrying out of the laws is of equal importance with the enactment of them. A careful study of the experience of those countries which have employed the commission form of administration will, in my opinion, ratify and confirm the confidence in it which the members of the Minimum Wage Board of Manitoba acquired.

Manitoba Temperance Act

The annual report of the chief inspector of the Manitoba Temperance Act department for the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1919, shows that during the year 5 wholesale druggists' licenses and 162 druggists' retail licenses were issued to qualified applicants. Two applications were refused a wholesale druggists' license and one application was withdrawn. Nine retail druggists' licenses were surrendered during the year and two were cancelled by a second conviction of the licensees. One application for a retail license was withdrawn and five are still pending. There were 152 retail licenses and 5 wholesale licenses in force at the end of the year. This represents an increase in one druggist's retail license and one druggist's wholesale license as compared with last year. Thirteen licensees were fined during the year for an infraction of the Act. Two of these were fined the second time and their licenses cancelled.

Prosecutions

Six hundred and ten convictions for infractions of the Act were recorded during the year as against 357 last year. The penalties imposed in fines amounted to $104,465 as against $57,858.50 last year. Two persons were sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine, and some others took the jail option. Seven convictions were recorded against four veterinary surgeons and twenty-eight convictions were recorded against twenty-seven medical doctors. Eight charges against medical doctors were dismissed and one conviction was quashed by the court of appeal.

During the first years of the operation of the Act little or no trouble from excessive prescribing was experienced. Liquor could then be secured for private use from outside the province. Operation of the order-in-council prohibiting inter-provincial trade materially changed the conditions under which the Act operates. There has been no corresponding change in the Act to adapt it to the new conditions.

Permissive Sections

The experience of the last year would indicate that the permissive sections of the Act, those which provide for transactions in liquor within the province for permitted purposes, need strengthening if they are to stand the strain superimposed upon them by supplementary federal legislation. Liquor is permitted for mechanical, scientific, sacramental and medicinal purposes. There is but little trouble with the first three, but the legislation governing the use of liquor for medicinal purposes is wholly unequal to meet the situation obtaining last year.

Liquor Prescribed

During the six months period ending September 1st, 1919, the last period reported under the provisions of the Act, 31,967 gallons of spirituous liquors were sold on doctors' prescriptions by retail druggists. The quantity prescribed and the fact that the greater part of it was prescribed by a small number of physicians would indicate that it was not all for medicinal purposes.

Prescribing in Discretion of Doctor

In my report last year, in speaking of the demand for liquor in the influenza epidemic, I said: "The Department took the position that the Act leaves the kind and quantity of liquor to be prescribed as medicine to the professional discretion of the medical practitioner. No attempt was made to construe or administer the Act so as to prevent a physician from prescribing what liquor he might deem necessary for the health of his patients. We understand the Act to provide that the doctor and not the department nor the druggist is the sole judge as to whether liquor is necessary for the health of his patient or not."

Experience in Court

There is no need of laying information unless it can be supported by fairly strong evidence that the accused did not exercise his judgment in prescribing. Eight charges against medical men were dismissed during the year. In one case there was the evidence of the patient that he was not sick and did not need the liquor. There was also evidence that seventy-four of this doctor's prescriptions were filled in one day. He admitted writing fifty-five of them on that day. He claimed, however, that they all needed it and the case was dismissed. The Act does not make it an offence to resell prescriptions.

Penalties

Experience would indicate that money penalties are no deterrent to those who are determined to sell liquor. There would appear to be good reasons for making the penalty for selling a jail sentence without the option of a fine.

Convictions during the year were as follows:

For "having, keeping or giving liquor in a place other than a private dwelling house"	165
For "selling liquor without a license"	151
For "allowing drunkenness on premises occupied"	26
For "being intoxicated in public place"	84
For "keeping liquor for purpose of sale without a license"	45
For "purchasing, obtaining, using and consuming liquor obtained in Manitoba from unlicensed person"	106
For "giving liquor to a minor"	2
For "illegal prescribing"	26
For "sundry offences under 'The Manitoba Temperance Act' "	5
Total convictions	610

Prosecutions for operating illicit stills are not included in this list, as the department has no authority to prosecute. The information is turned over to the Inland Revenue Department, who prosecute under the Dominion Inland Revenue Act and the fines go to the Dominion treasury.

Bureau of Labor in 1919

(From Annual Report of the Department of Public Works).

Review of Work

During the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1919, considerable work has been accomplished by the bureau which it is impossible to record, inasmuch as same is incidental to inspection. The records show, however, that all establishments coming under the jurisdiction of the bureau are in fairly good condition and all orders issued by the bureau's inspectors have been carried out with very little friction.

Considerable time and study has been given to the subject of "Accident Prevention," and it is gratifying to note that there is a marked reduction in the number of accidents reported to the bureau for the year 1919 when compared with those reported in 1918, especially fatalities. In the year 1919, 921 accidents (including 11 fatalities) were reported, as against 1123 (including 21 fatalities) reported in 1918.

A great deal of time has also been devoted to the study of conditions in printing establishments, especially with regard to ventilation, with the view of eliminating, as far as possible, the gas and fumes thrown off in the process of melting the lead used for linotype machines. In this connection, the bureau has had the co-operation of the proprietors of some of the large printing establishments as well as that of the typographical organization, and whilst it must be admitted that we have not yet reached the ideal stage, good progress has been made.

Provincial Building Laws

On several occasions it has been brought to the attention of the bureau that buildings are being erected or altered, premises being leased, and equipment being installed for industrial purposes, without reference to the provincial requirements of the several Acts governing such matters, the impression evidently being that nothing more than a civic permit is necessary. This has often resulted in expense and inconvenience to the owners that might have been avoided had the parties fully imformed themselves of the provincial requirements beforehand. In order, therefore, to secure compliance with the requirements at a minimum expense, architects, rental agents and civic officials have been given particu-

lars of the respective Acts coming under the jurisdiction of the bureau, and have been informed that the bureau will gladly review plans and give suggestions at any time.

At the 1918-1919 session of the legislature "The Minimum Wage Act" was amended to include offices and places of amusement. The administration of this Act received considerable attention during the past year, and we are pleased to report good progress in this connection.

At the 1918-1919 session of the legislature "The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act" was rescinded and "The Elevator and Hoist Act" substituted therefor.

At the 1918-1919 session of the legislature clause 18 of "The Public Amusements Act" was amended to provide for the appointment of a board of examiners for the licensing of cinema projectors, apprentices, etc., and the preparation of safety rules and regulations in connection therewith.

At the 1918-1919 session of the legislature "The Electricians' License Act" was amended by re-writing two clauses, one giving a clearer definition of the word "journeyman," and the other providing that no apprentice or helper would perform any electrical work or installation except under the direct supervision of a properly licensed journeyman.

During the latter part of the year the building work was heavy, and it is gratifying to note that very few accidents have occurred on buildings, and that a big improvement has been effected for the protection of the men engaged in building operations.

Quite a noticeable feature is the number of industrial plants who have increased their staffs, and quite a number of new firms have started up in business, which indicates a good, healthy industrial condition, especially in the automobile repairing, electrical, garment manufacturing and woodworking industries.

A serious steam boiler explosion occurred in one of the railway shops, due to shortage of water; the explosion lifted the boiler from its setting, through the roof of the boiler-room into the yard. Four men were injured, two of them fatally.

Steam boilers used by the railways have never been inspected by provincial inspectors, it being the contention of the railways that their boilers do not come within the scope of the Provincial Act, but are governed by "The Dominion Railway Act." The bureau has taken the matter up with the Dominion Minister of Railways and the chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, asking for a decision and pointing out the advantage of inspection by provincial inspectors from the viewpoint of safety.

An explosion in one of our large refrigerating plants also occurred, whereby two men lost their lives, and at the present time there is a committee composed of representatives of the engineers' organization, owners and manufacturers of refrigerating plants, engineers' board of examiners, with the secretary of the bureau as chairman, which committee is working on safety rules and regulations governing refrigerating plants with the view of reducing accidents in this connection to a minimum.

The Minimum Wage Act

Regulations affecting practically all female workers have been adopted, and the bureau has devoted a great deal of time to the enforcement of these regulations, with the result that the standard of wages, hours and working conditions has been considerably improved

During the year many enquiries and complaints have been received showing the general interest which is being taken by all concerned in the work. In every case complaints have been investigated and prompt actiont taken.

It is gratifying to note that only three prosecutions were made during the year, all of which were under "The Minimum Wage Act." Conviction was obtained and a fine of $25 imposed in each case.

Child Labor

Several cases were investigated in this connection and in every case where sufficient proof of the correct age was not forthcoming, dismissal was insisted on.

Section 20, sub-section 2 of "The Shops Regulation Act" provides that a male child over thirteen and under fourteen years of age may be employed in or about a shop on any

school day for a period not longer than eight hours, on obtaining a permit from the Bureau of Labor.

There were only ten applications for these permits during the year, all of which were granted, showing a decrease when compared with 43 granted during the previous year.

The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act.

At the last session of the legislature a new Act was passed giving wide power to the board, providing for more direct control by the bureau of the inspection of elevators, and the adoption of rules and regulations on the recommendation of the board to be known as "The Elevator and Hoist Board." On July 11th, 1919, the following were appointed as members of this board: E. McGrath (chairman), A. Steventon, W. J. Easterbrook, T. A. Harp and G. W. Murray. Up to the 30th November, 1919, eleven meetings were held by this board. The draft of the regulations is almost complete, and it is anticipated that same will be ready for adoption early in the year.

Pending adoption of regulations the work during the past year has been carried on under "The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act" of 1916, including four meetings by the old board.

It is gratifying to be able to report that very few accidents have occurred in this connection during the year, showing that good results have been obtained since the passing of this legislation in 1916.

Total number of elevators inspected for the year.....1104
Total number of inspections for the year.....2847

Industrial Accidents

The following table shows the accidents reported to the bureau during the year:

GROUP	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total
Industrial	10	172	717	899
Elevators	1	....	7	8
Building Trades	....	5	9	14
Grand Total				921

Three of the fatalities were due to falls; machinery operation was responsible for two others; two men were crushed, one on a freight elevator and the other whilst repairing a street car in the car barns, and three deaths resulted from explosion. There was also a fatal accident to a female worker, being a case of electrocution whilst operating an electric potato peeler.

The serious and minor accidents were due to a number of different causes, such as falls, cuts, burns, falling material and flying particles injuring eyes of workmen.

Special comment may well be made in regard to "eye-accidents," which are of frequent occurrence, and whilst the majority do not lead to serious injury, there are quire a number which do, and special effort has been made to bring about the more general use of goggles whilst workmen are engaged in processes such as metal griding, chipping and cutting.

Safety Committees

Experience has shown that a large percentage of preventable accidents are due to unsafe methods of working, and therefore safety committees are recommended for every industry, and the bureau has been successful in bringing about such organizations in quite a number of the larger plants. It is the intention of the bureau, in the near future, to give publicity, by exhibition of slides, and other such means, of how accidents have occurred, and how same might have been avoided had due care been exercised.

During the year a number of accidents have been investigated which occurred in premises which did not come within the scope of any of the Acts whose provisions are enforced by the bureau.

The Building Trades Protection Act

The most important buildings under construction during the year in Winnipeg and St. Boniface were:

New Parliament Buildings.
Tuxedo Military Hospital.
Jewish Orphanage.
Allen Theatre.
New Civic Offices.
Ames-Holden-McCready Warehouse.
City Transformer Station.
City Light and Power Department Garage.
Marshall Wells Co., Warehouse.
Portage Milling and Transfer Company's Elevator at St. Boniface.

Numerous buildings of lesser importance were erected during the year. The most noticeable increase was in the number of dwellings erected, this being the first year since the outbreak of the war that any considerable number of dwellings was erected.

An attempt has been made to visit all the most important building jobs as often as once a week, and we feel that there has been a noticeable improvement in conditions in the building industry.

In this connection it is gratifying to note that the number of accidents for the year shows a marked improvement over previous years, no fatalities having been reported.

During the year there were eight hundred and thirty-five (835) inspections made and five hundred and fifty-seven (557) safety orders issued under this Act.

The City of Winnipeg issued permits totalling $2,948,000, as compared with $2,050,650 during 1918.

The following statement shows the number of inspections made and orders issued by the bureau for the past year, under the several Acts administered by it:

NAME OF STATUTE	No. of Inspections Made	No. of Orders Issued
"The Manitoba Factories' Act"	1792	1322
"The Bake Shops Act"	77	50
"The Shops Regulation Act"	493	214
"The Minimum Wage Act"	2559	2079
"The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act"	2847	2235
"The Steam Boiler Act"	5045	690
"The Building Trades Protection Act"	835	557
"The Public Building's Act"	7	19
"The Electricians' License Act"	406	145
"The Public Amusement Act" (The licensing of cinema projectors, etc.)	261	192
Total	14,332	7,503

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Farm Loans Association in 1919

The annual report of the Manitoba Farm Loans Association records that during the year 795 applications were received, aggregating $2,532,800, while new loans were paid out in the sum of $1,220,000. Of the applications received a considerable proportion, nearly $668,900.00, were declined or withdrawn for various reasons. Forty-two loans have been paid in full during the year, nearly all of them having been taken up by the Soldier Settlement Board, the remainder consisting of releases granted by the board under very exceptional circumstances.

The Manitoba Farm Loans Act was amended at the last session of the legislature to more clearly define the disposition of moneys received from borrowers in respect of annual instalments from their loans, and the investment of these funds for the future redemption of outstanding debentures.

The funds for loaning purposes were, as in the past, for the most part provided by the province, but it is encouraging to note that bonds sold to the public increased from $133,995 to $237,350, and deposits from $25,350 to $63,875 during the period under consideration.

All Funds Secured at 5 Per Cent.

In spite of the extremely unsettled condition of the money markets of the world during the past twelve months, the association has still been able to secure sufficient funds at 5 per cent., as provided for by the Act, to continue loaning at the original rate. The board, however, feel that the well-to-do farmers of the province are not, perhaps, supporting the association by their investments in its securities to the extent that they might. All the money disbursed by the association goes directly to the benefit of the farmers themselves, and arrangements are being made this year to set on foot a campaign to interest this class more particularly in their own institution.

Arrangements have recently been made with the Workmen's Compensation Board for the custody of their trust company funds upon which a rate of interest of 5 per cent. per annum is paid. $100,000 of these moneys had been received up to November 30th, 1919, and at the date of this report this account stands at the large sum of $200,000. Withdrawals from these funds will be spread over a long period which will be of great assistance in financing the association.

The total amount of money paid out to November 30th, 1919, for loans was $3,220,950, of which $141,014.37 had been repaid, leaving loans outstanding amounting to (principal only) $3,079,935.63, as against $1,990,346.66 at the same date in 1918.

Surplus Over Expenses

Expenses for the year amounted to $21,374.39, which sum, it will be noted, is considerably less than the 1 per cent. originally provided for in the Act as being sufficient to run the business on the amount of mortgage loans in force; and the substantial surplus of $20,403.28 has been set aside.

The advantages of the plan of loaning, in addition to the cheap rate of interest, are obvious, as the borrower finds that his principal is being gradually reduced, almost without his knowing it, so that he does not, after a few years, have to face the certain necessity of providing a large sum of money for the repayment of principal.

Many appreciative letters have been received from borrowers, while on the other hand the secretary reports being unable to recall any serious complaints. Sometimes the working of the Act, more especially as regards the stock feature, is not fully understood, but an explanation soon satisfies the enquirer. This stock feature has much to recommend it, as it has the effect of excluding the land speculator. All sales of land covered by the mortgages of the association are scrutinized most closely by the board, who demand the fullest information as to the character and ability of the purchaser before they will grant their consent to the transfer of the capital stock and the assumption of the association's mortage.

Of the $141,014.37 repayments of principal, referred to above, the investment of $125,000 in the Victory Loans of 1918 and 1919 was authorized by order-in-council.

Collections have been very good, only one small arrear is outstanding from 1918, and while there will be some of the borrowers that will need assistance from 1919, the total amount should not be very large.

Assessment and Taxation Commission

At the 1918 session of the legislature a resolution was passed authorizing the appointment of a commission to make enquiry into and report upon the whole question of assessment and taxation in the province. The commission was appointed by order-in-council of July 26th, 1918, and commenced its labors almost immediately. The matters to be enquired into were set out as follows:

(1) The operation of the laws now in force relating to the assessment of different classes of property for the purposes of municipal taxation in the province.

(2) The present method in force in the province respecting the preparation of municipal assessments with the view of improving the same, and to secure, if possible, greater uniformity in this respect.

(3) The most equitable manner of equalizing municipal assessments throughout the province to meet the annual statutory levies required to be made by the Municipal Commissioner.

(4) The advantage or disadvantage of rating land values only, instead of the value of lands and buildings, and extend to which and with what results, as far as can be ascertained, the rating of land values only has been adopted elsewhere.

(5) The advisability and justness of taxing incomes in addition to or substitution for other methods of taxation now in force in the province.

(6) The most equitable method of assessing stocks and other property of mercantile firms or corporations.

(7) The most equitable mode of assessing companies operating public utilities under any statutes in force in the province or under agreements with municipal corporations, such as companies who supply water, light, heat and power to the municipalities and the inhabitants thereof, telegraph and telephone companies, and companies operating electric street railways.

(8) Improvements in the assessment laws of the province suggested by recent legislation in other countries.

(9) The statutory exemptions from taxation now in force, and as to what, if any, changes it is desirable should be made therein.

(10) The re-arrangement, revision, amendment and consolidation of the provisions of "The Assessment Act" and all amendments thereto.

(11) Generally to inquire, hear, consider and report upon any other matters connected with the assessment and taxation of property within the province which may be brought to the attention of the commission, or which might appear to such commission to be proper subjects for consideration.

The commission comprised the following persons:

Representing the Legislature—

Hon. Edward Brown, Provincial Treasurer.

J. W. Breakey, M.P.P., Member for Souris.

Representing the Government—

E. M. Wood, chairman of the Commission, Deputy Municipal Commissioner.

L. W. Donley, Assessment Commissioner, City of Winnipeg.

Representing—

The Grain Growers—

Peter Wright and W. R. Wood, M.P.P.

Union of Municipalities—

D. D. McDonald and Robert Forke.

City of Winnipeg—

Alderman Frank Fowler and A. H. Pulford.

University of Manitoba—

Professor A. B. Clark.

Board of Trade—

W. J. Christie and J. H. Parkhill.

Labor Party—

E. Robinson.

Winnipeg Real Estate Exchange—
W. H. Gardner.
Retail Merchants' Association—
J. H. Curle.
Suburban Municipalities—
Reeve J. F. Fielde, Municipality of Fort Garry.
Local Branch of Canadian Manufacturers' Association—
N. M. Warren.

The commission held public hearings throughout the province to which all persons and organizations interested were freely invited. In addition to this, information was sought from other sources and the active work covered a period of considerably more than a year. The final report of the commission, which is dated December 27th, 1919, was tabled in the legislature shortly after the opening. It is a voluminous document, of which only the summary of recommendations can be reproduced here.

Summary of Recommendations

1. That except as may be hereinafter provided, the present incidence of municipal taxation in the province be not altered.

2. That all real property in the province be assessed. Land at its value; buildings and other improvements at two-thirds of their value.

(*a*) Land, as distinguished from buildings, shall be assessed at its value at the time of assessment;

(*b*) in the case of land having buildings thereon, the value of the buildings be the amount by which the value of the land is thereby increased.

(*c*) in assessing land having buildings thereon, the value of the land be set down in one column. In another the sum representing two-thirds the value of the buildings. The value of the lands and buildings together to form the total assessment of the property.

3. That in urban municipalities, comprising cities, towns and villages, the basis of taxation shall be:

(*a*) The assessment value of real property;
(*b*) business;
(*c*) income;
(*d*) special franchises;
(*e*) licenses.

4. That in rural municipalities taxation be on the assessed value of land only, in the case of farm land; and on the assessed value of both land and buildings and on net profits of business and on incomes, in unincorporated village areas in rural communities, where lands are not used for purely agriculture purposes.

5. That for the purpose of widening the base of taxation an income tax be introduced in the urban municipalities of the province, as well as in those portions of rural municipalities having urban characteristics. The tax to be on all incomes of persons over certain fixed amounts.

6. That for the period of at least one year, the prevailing provisions regarding the imposition and collection of the business tax and the personal property tax be continued, and that thereafter, as soon as possible, the tax imposed and to be collected in such cases, be on the basis of net profit of business.

7. That a tax commission be constituted at the earliest possible date, with sufficiently wide powers as will enable said commission to fully and effectively perform its functions, comprising in part:

(*a*) The active co-operation with local assessors, not including cities, respecting the preparation of municipal assessments with the view of improving the same;

(*b*) the administration of any income law that may be enacted; also that relating to a business tax;

(*c*) the preparation, whenever required, of equitable equalized assessments relating to the several municipalities of the province, upon which to fairly apportion between municipalities the annual statutory levies of the Municipal Commissioner.

8. That the statute labor provisions of "The Assessment Act" be repealed and that there be substituted therefor the power, and only the power, to rural municipalities to levy for a limited amount annually against all rateable property within their respective limits for expenditure on road improvements where most needed in the opinion of councils.

9. That the poll tax provisions of "The Assessment Act" be absolutely abolished at the end of the year 1920.

10. (*a*) That the School Act be amended making the taxation unit for rural schools correspond in area with that for municipal purposes;

(*b*) that the establishment of municipal rural school boards be made compulsory instead of optional (as is now the case) throughout the entire organized rural portions of the province;

(*c*) that in the election of trustees to said boards a fair method be provided to govern in all cases;

(*d*) that when school districts provide the plant equipment for secondary education, the departmental grants to such be equal to, or at least 80 per cent. of, the entire cost of operation.

11. That the exemption of church property in urban municipalities be limited to the church building itself and the land upon which it stands; and that the exempted portion be liable to be sold along with the non-exempted portion of the site for arrears of taxes upon the latter.

12. (*a*) That in the case of creameries and cheese factories the exemption provision contained in "The Assessment Act" in such cases be restricted to $5,000 of the assessed value thereof, and that they be taxed on any excess capital over that limit. This provision to be applicable to all existing creameries and cheese factories in the province;

(*b*) that hereafter the power of municipal councils to exempt property of any kind from taxation be conditional upon the by-law or by-laws being first submitted to and receiving the assent of the duly qualified ratepayers, as in the case of money by-laws.

13. That as regards the apportioning of the cost of sewers, sidewalks, pavements and street openings, effect be given in such cases as outlined in our report under the heading "Local Improvements," believing that the suggestions offered will result in an equitable distribution in such cases of the charges in proportion to the benefits received.

14. That in connection with applications by municipalities for titles to lands purchased at tax sales, the procedure be simplified, and the cost reduced in such cases in land titles offices.

15. That the provisions of sections 129 and 144 of "The Assessment Act" be amended so as to do away with suit and distress for taxes in cases where the owner of land has a title thereto in fee simple.

16. That "The Succession Duties Act" be so amended as to ensure greater revenues from larger estates.

17. (*a*) That we approve of the following as being proper sources of provincial revenue:

1. Corporation taxation.
2. Railway taxation.
3. Succession duties tax.
4. Supplementary revenue tax.
5. Unoccupied lands tax.
6. Automobile tax.
7. The amusement tax.

(*b*) As regards the amusement tax, we recommend that this form of taxation be abolished as soon as the government sees its way clear to substitute other sources of revenue to take its place;

(*c*) that the annual revenue from automobile licenses be ear-marked for expenditure upon roads constructed under the provisions of "The Good Roads Act."

It will be noted that one of the recommendations is for the appointment of a permanent board or tax commission. Legislation providing for the appointment of such a commission will be introduced during the present session, according to a statement made in the legislature by the Provincial Treasurer. It is to consist of three persons, all to be independent and not representatives of any organization. It will be semi-judical in its powers and will be remote from any government influence, although it will operate as a wing of the Municipal Commissioner's office. One of the first duties of the permanent commission will be the equalizing

of the assessment in the various municipalities. In this connection, it may be worth while to reproduce from the report referred to above the following excerpt bearing particularly on the matter of municipal assessments:

"Turning to a discussion of the subject as directly affecting the rural municipalities of this province, we have no hesitation whatever in averring that the time has arrived, and is urgent, for a radical change in methods respecting the preparation of municipal assessments. This conclusion is based, after a full investigation of the nature of the work involved and the manner of its performance, generally, throughout the province. While it probably has been no worse than elsewhere, it certainly has been no better. In making this statement we do not desire to reflect upon the character or ordinary capabilities of our local municipal assessors, but only to emphasize the fact to be that they have been, and are, naturally, on account of lack of proper training, unable properly to perform the technical and difficult work they are called upon to do. We unequivocally say that the whole system is bad, the outstanding defect being that it has no central or supervisory head by which to secure any sort of uniformity in the manner of efficiency of its administration."

(*Note.*—Printed copies of the full report of the Assessment and Taxation Commission may be obtained by addressing the Municipal Commissioner, Law Courts, Winnipeg).

Provincial Board of Health

(Summary of Annual Report for 1919)

The board of health has had a very satisfactory year, and made a substantial advance towards the accomplishment of their ultimate purpose of supplying the people of the province with all the advantages that the application of modern knowledge of prevention of disease can furnish. The sentiment in favor of this work is now unanimous, as far as we know. Less than four years ago Miss McGillivray was engaged as the first health nurse, and three others were added the same year. The chairman of the board was able to report the engagement of sixteen last year, while at this date the staff consists of thirty-six, all assigned definitely, with other requests waiting to be complied with as soon as qualified nurses can be secured for the new fields. The qualifications of the nurses today call for higher standing than when the work started; all nurses are now specially trained either before they come into the services or afterwards by instructions from senior nurses, who, through study and experience, are now health specialists, and the newly employed nurses do not now begin their labors with the handicap under which the pioneers were compelled to work until the severe school of experience in the several districts qualified them for their new vocation. There was no school abroad to learn from, for Manitoba was the first country on this continent to institute rural health nursing, and there is no record of a European country that has instituted it yet.

One-Half Province Covered

Twenty-one municipalities were added in 1919 to the territory assigned to the staff of nurses, and now about one-half of the province is covered, and although there is a large area yet to be covered, it is in the more sparsely settled parts of the province, and the board hope to have this territory established into nursing districts within two years at the longest. It is estimated that a staff of sixty nurses will be sufficient to meet the requirements in the rural districts in a fairly efficient manner.

The knowledge gained from the experience during the period that this branch of the board of health has been in operation has enabled the board to make a very good organization and set forth fairly definitely the duties of the nurses. Each nurse is assigned a specific territory of a size that can be efficiently and regularly inspected. While her duties include all matters that affect the health of the people in her district, one of her principal duties is child welfare work, including the period from infancy up to school age. This is divided into two classes:

(1) The child welfare station is in the centre of population, where children are brought by the mothers for personal attention, and where the mothers are instructed in fundamental principles in the care of children and the cause and prevention of the preventable diseases

that have in the past accounted for such a large number of infant lives annually in all countries, and gave rise to the statement that the most dangerous occupation on earth is "being a baby." That phrase is fast becoming obsolete in Manitoba, and if the expectations to bring all our population under the influence of the health nurses are soon realized, it will no longer be quoted with any significance. Only three of these welfare stations are yet in operation. Over seven hundred children were passed through the hands of the nurses at these points, each one of whom received a personal examination and a duplicate record made of its condition on a card for the purpose, with any defect or deficiency specially noted, giving an opportunity to follow the children who are in need of treatment and make a record of the results produced.

(2) In the localities too sparsely settled for welfare stations—and most of the province is in that condition yet—the mothers and children assemble in small groups in the homes where demonstrations are made and instructions given in everything that will benefit the little folks. Hygiene and sanitation are impressed on all occasions.

Work in Schools

The school work is among the most satisfactory of the duties of the nurses. It is now an established practice of the board and a fixed and permanent institution without which no school can reach its maximum of efficiency. This work has been progressing now for a sufficient length of time to produce results, and they are most encouraging. 13,373 children were examined for the first time; 11,251 received a second examination; 8039 of these were found defective. First aid and any other treatment that the nurses were able to administer were given to 5,022 of them; 1,500 received medical treatment as the result of recommendations by the nurses to the parents of the children. It is recorded, too, that the surroundings and conditions of the buildings in fifty schools were changed to improve the sanitation on the recommendations of the nurses.

Co-operation Helping

Progress in co-operation is an outstanding feature of the last year's work. The Department of Education has been a close partner ever since the work started and has already been referred to. Voluntary organizations have become better acquainted with our purposes, and are contributing valuable services to the province by the assistance they are rendering. Conferences have been held with the Red Cross workers and the duties of each arranged so that one will assist the other. The board has been assisted, too, in a co-operative way by the welfare commission, an organization that has shown special interest in the care of children. The function of the Children's Home has also been widened by the information supplied, and assistance rendered its officials by the nurses in the course of their duties.

The presence of a nurse in a district has a very comforting effect upon the people remote from a physician, expecially upon the mothers with young children. Their advice on small matters and whether or not a physician is required, is helpful, and relieves the anxiety that uncertainty when there is illness in the family always brings.

We ought to remember, too, that the life of a nurse in the rural districts, especially in the remote parts, is by no means one of luxury. Her district is a whole municipality and often more, with transportation difficult and living conditions in the homes of those who need her advice not yet in conformity with Canadian customs, but there are no complaints. Their sense of duty and the need of the work they are trying to perform is sufficient incentive to endure the discomforts and hardships that form a necessary part of the life of the nurses in the rural districts.

Tuberculosis

The greatest health problem in this province today, as it is in all countries, is the prevention of tuberculosis, and the care of the patients affected with this disease.

The Ninette sanitorium is doing all that an institution of this kind can do for those admitted there for treatment. Many cases are cured, most are improved, and comforts that cannot be secured anywhere else are furnished to all. A partial grasp of the importance of this question may be gathered from the magnitude of the institution that had a salary list for employees alone of $72,000 in 1919 without having much effect on the death rate from this cause. Last year the death rate reached 487.

The people are fully loyal to the sanitorium and it has never been in want of funds nor is there any anxiety about its future in this regard. If, however, we are to begin to reduce the mortality rate we will have to lessen the supply of patients by more active preventive

measures and by inducing those who have unfortunately contracted the disease to take earlier treatment. In Manitoba we are most fortunately situated in having the health nurses to form a part of the organized machinery to meet this requirement. They have been doing as much as circumstances would permit in this direction already but little compared with the strenuous task of meeting the whole situation. The nurses finished attendance on a course of lectures a few weeks ago, several of which were on tuberculosis, for the purpose of qualifying them to instruct the people of the rural districts on methods of prevention and enable them to detect the presence of the disease in time to give the patient the benefit of treatment in a curative stage. The duties of the nurses will in future include specifically more attention to tuberculosis and a closer relation between their efforts and that of the sanitorium; the one giving instruction on prevention directly to the people, pointing out the suspected cases, impressing them with the importance of treatment and following and reporting from time to time on the condition of the patients who have been discharged from the sanatorium. On the other hand, the sanitorium will continue the excellent work it has been doing but we hope with greater effect by securing the admission of those requiring treatment at a much earlier period of the disease. We trust as a result of this harmony of effort, an appreciable reduction will be made in the annual list of fatalities from T.B. that the Vital Statistics department has been compelled to register in the past.

Venereal Diseases

Venereal disease, that old and secret menace to society, has been brought fairly well under control through the application of the new regulations adopted a few months ago, and the establishment of a free clinic for treatment in Winnipeg. Every person affected in this way seeks treatment somewhere and our regulations require them to consult a physician or apply to this clinic, through either of which the patient is followed until a cure is effected. The results are much beyond all calculations. Nine hundred and eighteen patients have already been treated and the clinic has only been in operation for 14 months, and practically all have or will be cured.

This is one of the most radical and beneficial changes the board has introduced since the reorganization in 1916. The good results were made possible by a recent discovery of a cure for the worst form of venereal diseases, considered incurable up to that time, and the enactment of authority to control the patient. The whole machine is working in beautiful harmony. The patients do not object to be cured, society is glad to have this menace removed and the physicians without difficulty keep the patients under treatment for a sufficient length of time to get the desired result. All the provinces of Canada now have very similar regulations and are in co-operation in the treatment of any persons moving from one province to another.

Regulation of Slaughter Houses

It was ascertained in 1917, after a careful inspection of a number of slaughter houses, that the sources of meat supply in some instances were the cause of disease, and to remove this danger altogether regulations requiring the slaughter of animals for meat purposes to be performed under sanitary conditions were adopted and went into effect. Although this reform called for some trouble and expense, the butchers, with few exceptions, readily accepted the regulations, and upwards of 200 slaughter houses have either been built or remodelled since that time, and made such that clean meat is supplied from every one of them. The few butchers who have not yet complied with the requirements and have been given more time to do so for good reasons have assured the department of their agreement with the purpose of the board and the principles involved and have pledged themselves to meet the wishes of the health authorities within the time agreed upon.

Municipal Hospital Act

The Municipal Hospital Act passed at the last session of the legislature, under which the people of any district can form themselves into a "hospital district" and levy on the property it contains for building, equipping and maintaining the institution, has proved to be a practical measure. Eight districts have already been formed, and there is an intimation that three or four more will make application to do so in the near future. It is expected building will start as soon as the season opens, and we will see the beginning of a chain of hospitals that will eventually bring this blessing and convenience within the reach of all citizens of the province, excepting, perhaps, the extremely remote areas.

Mothers' Allowances in 1919

In a general survey of the work of the Mothers' Allowances Commission, contained in the annual report for the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1919, it is explained that municipalities are required by order-in-council to appoint Mothers' Allowances committees to receive and investigate applications from prospective beneficiaries under the Act, for submission with their recommendation to the commissioners. Direct supervision of cases in Greater Winnipeg is exercised as far as possible from the main office of the commission, the assistance of the municipal committee in this work is greatly appreciated. The commissioners are of the opinion that considerable and efficient supervision is not only advisable but expedient and necessary in order to conserve the funds placed at their disposal.

The commissioners have issued to both municipal committees and beneficiaries memoranda conveying information for their guidance. These are explicit and are designed to secure the full co-operation of those concerned.

The benefit extended to eligible families is now more and more being looked upon as due recognition for services to be rendered in that the children of this province shall have a reasonable opportunity of becoming good citizens.

Co-operation

The commissioners are of the opinion that all ratepayers in the province should be willing to assist the commission with any constructive criticism that will tend to successful administration of the Act. The policy adopted is one that makes an adequate allowance possible. The standard governing such allowance must be capable of adjustment to meet any variation in conditions. It is in this phase of the work therefore that the public are appealed to in order that they may understand the principles underlying the Act.

Eligibility

A limit still obtains by regulation under the Act whereby the commissioners are unable to assist other than widows with two or more children, or mothers whose husbands are under treatment in a hospital for mental diseases. It is necessary that an applicant shall have been resident in the province two years prior to the death of the husband or his detention in a hospital for mental diseases, and that he must have been a British subject or a naturalized Canadian citizen. Marriage and death certificates and family history are required.

The scope of the Act provides for the inclusion of dependent families because of the father's physical disability or detention in a penal institution. The commissioners wish to stress the importance of cases where the father is physically disabled and possibly an added burden to the family. The government is urged to consider the advisability of allowing such families to benefit under the Act.

Protection of Property and Other Assets

Evidence of the government's willingness to accede to the necessity for conserving the self-respect and thrift of families applying for an allowance is adequately shown in the new regulation, whereby an applicant will in future be able to deposit in the government treasury cash or other assets over and above $200. The latter may be retained for emergency purposes. Interest accruing from any amount so deposited will be applied to the allowance and the principal held until the allowance ceases permanently when such principal will be returned to the mother in full. If a mother or children own their home the same should be protected from encumbrance by a lien for the period during which they benefit under the Act.

The Government have agreed to allow for reasonable funeral expenses. No allowance is made for life insurance.

Municipal Committees

During the time under review, 22 municipalities have formed Mothers' Allowances committees in accord with regulations to investigate and report upon prospective beneficiaries or mothers already benefitting under the Act. Fifty-five municipalities are now assisting the commission in this way and their work generally cannot be too highly praised.

Most municipalities find it expedient to secure the practical assistance of ladies on such committees, the supervision necessary in many cases being difficult and intricate and often demanding more time than the other members can readily give to the matter.

The service rendered by such committee is valuable in so far as intelligent and considerate motives direct their action. An increasing number are realizing their duty in seeing that while distress is avoided, no tendancy to pauperize is tolerated. Initiative must be conserved and reasonably encouraged in order that the spirit underlying the Act may be maintained.

The recommendations of the municipal committees are upheld by the commission as far as possible, and allowances are made in accord therewith. It is realized that conditions vary in different parts of the province, which fact necessitates the committees assuming some responsibility, especially in certain difficult cases.

In municipalities in which there are very few beneficiaries, a committee of three has been found large enough. Where there are a larger number a committee comprising two members of the municipal council, two women, a member who is representative of the small wage-earner, a lawyer, and doctor would meet the requirement.

Municipal Tax Levy

Half the cost of all allowances granted in the 1919 levy was on all municipalities *pro rata* according to the Municipal Act amendment and had no reference to the number or amount of allowances granted in each municipality. The levy was based upon the equalized assessments in the six provincial districts.

The commission and committees endeavor to secure the full co-operation of mothers and children of earning age, and to see that the ability to earn is fostered and encouraged on the part of the mother provided her home or children are not neglected. The commission expect that at least 50 per cent. of income as derived from children, mothers' own effort, roomers or boarders will be contributed towards the support of the home. All families are expected to become self-supporting as soon as at all possible. Relatives are also expected to assist whenever their means will allow.

Considerable attention has again been given in order to meet reasonable living expenses by a careful revision of the schedule of allowances. Increases in rent, food, clothing, fuel, and sundry household expenses have been met as conditions warranted and in accord with actual circumstances. Mothers who are able and willing to keep account of their expenditures are encouraged to do so. In this way the budget of the average housewife may be more readily approximated, and the schedule intelligently reviewed and adjusted.

Monthly Schedule of Allowances

Actual rent, or in lieu thereof, interest, taxes and insurance.

	Operating Rent.	Winter Fuel		Food	Clothing.
6-7 roomed house	$4.00	$15.00	Adult	$ 9.50	$ 5.50
4-5 roomed house	4.00	13.00	Child—1	33.50	1.50
3 roomed house	4.00	10.00	Child—4	75.00	3.00
2-3 unheated rooms	3.00	8.00	Child—8	147.00	4.00

Allowance for winter fuel is given for six months, October to March.

Light (summer), $1.50.

Light (winter), 1.00.

One extra month's allowance for Winter clothing was advanced in October, 1919, to be deducted in small monthly instalments during the following ten months.

	Clearing	Recreation.
Families of 2 or 3 children	$1.00	$1.50
Families of 4 or 5 children	1.50	2.00
Families of 6 or over	2.00	2.50

Actual water rate, 50c. to $1.00.

Minimum for Two Children

Actual Rent—		Food and Clothing—	
House (estimated)	$15.00	Mother	$15.00
Suite heated (estimated)	22.00	Child, 1 to 3	8.00
Cooking fuel	3.00	Child, 4 to 7	10.00
Light, water, carfare	2.00	Child, 8 to 14	12.00

Sundry overhead expenses..... $5.00

On above basis, $56, $58, $60, $62 or $64 becomes the minimum according to children's ages.

An interesting item in the report which shows that 1291 dependent children were cared for in the homes of 413 mothers under allowance is that the average annual allowance per child was $230. The average annual cost of maintaining a child in an institution was $278. In making this comparison it should not be implied that the 1291 who benefit by the Mothers' Allowances Act would be in an institution if they were not benefited by the provisions of the Act, or that simply as an economic factor the state is justified in extending such legislation, but it would appear at least that a normal home life could be realized by state aid on reasonably lower cost per capita than compared with the cost of maintenance in an institution.

The Winnipeg Auxiliary

The work of the Winnipeg Mothers' Allowance Auxiliary in connection with the beneficiaries under the Act has been greatly appreciated by the commission. Over ninety friendly visitors have volunteered their time and assistance in many ways that the official government visitor cannot take. These activities consist of classes for girls and mothers for sewing, cooking and learning English, etc. Much credit is therefore due to those responsible for the organization of these activities. The commissioners also offer grateful thanks to many others who have willingly extended their valuable service, among whom are the Winnipeg School Board and school principals, and school teachers in both urban and rural districts.

Statistics of 1919

During the 12 months ending November 30th, 1919, 243 new applications were received in addition to 276 applications which were on file previous to that period. Of the 243 new applications received, 214 were granted, 26 were refused for various reasons, 1 was withdrawn for future consideration. During the year there was a total of 413 families under allowances. Of those, 51 were cancelled during the year for various reasons, leaving 362 families actually under allowances at November 30th, 1919. The reasons for cancellation are set out as follows:

21 cancelled owing to income having increased so that families had become self-supporting.

20 mothers remarried.

2 were cancelled because of unsatisfactory behaviour.

3 had left the province.

1 refused to co-operate.

2 were found ineligible after application had been accepted.

1 died.

Recommendations

In commenting on the Act generally and prospects for the future, the commission makes the following observations and recommendations:

The Mothers' Allowances Act makes it possible to place upon a reasonable level of living those who would otherwise be our dependent poor, or would be subjected to conditions which would mean breaking up the home life, or hazarding the best home influence by the mother having to work out and so neglect her children at a period in their lives when her care is most needed.

Social insurance for all, or what is claimed by its advocates, is admittedly a goal to be desired. Mothers' allowances may be one avenue through which we may gain that end, and in the meantime deserving motherhood, the sacredness of home life and the welfare of children does not have to await the slow evolution of our social, industrial and political life.

After careful inquiry and study the commissioners feel justified in submitting for careful consideration the following recommendations:

1. Whereas cases, eligible under the Act, are known to Winnipeg and other municipalities where a father is tubercular or otherwise physically disabled, that regulations be approved to include such cases as are provided for by the Act.
2. Whereas the present ruling only includes families where the father was a Canadian citizen, cases are on record where the mother was a Canadian citizen before marriage

or has since become a naturalized citizen, that the ruling be amended by the substitution of the following: The applicant must have been a British subject before her marriage or have become a Canadian citizen since such time or is a Canadian citizen at time of application.

3. Whereas children between the age of 14 and 16 find it very difficult to secure suitable work and are in some cases debarred from employment, or have not been able to reach grade eight through sickness or other causes, that children of beneficiaries be allowed, where practicable, to attend school until fifteen years of age.
4. Whereas no protection is afforded families having equity in home or other property: That an amendment to the Act be submitted authorising that while under allowance any equity in property held by a beneficiary shall be subject to a lien until release upon allowances being finally discontinued.

Cattle Brands

(From the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture and Immigration).

At the last session of the legislature the "Cattle Brand Act" was repealed and a new Act, namely, "The Brand Act," substituted therefor, involving many essential technicalities consistent with the fast increasing demand for brands. This demand is evidenced by the fact that during the last two years 716 brands have been issued as compared with 215, being the highest total in any two preceding years.

Renewal of Brands

According to the Act, all brands issued prior to January 1st, 1917, expire upon December 31st, 1919, which will mean a large increase in the renewals allotted during the coming year, as over five hundred brands will be subject to cancellation, unless renewed, according to section 14, sub-section 2 of "The Brand Act."

The fee for recording any brand or for any renewal or re-allotment shall be $2.

Any person may search or procure the search of the records and obtain certified extracts therefrom during the regular business hours of the department upon payment of a fee of fifty cents.

The minister may, upon the application of any owner, accompanied by a fee of one dollar, make changes in any brand or in the form or the location on the animal thereof, not inconsistent with the provisions of "The Brand Act."

The ownership of and the right to use any brand recorded under the provisions of this Act may be assigned by an assignment in the form prescribed, executed by the owner named in the certificate in the presence of a witness, who shall verify the execution by his affidavit sworn before a commissioner for taking affidavits, a notary public or a justice of the peace, which assignment shall be filed with the minister, together with the original certificate of record, or an affidavit by the owner that such certificate or record has been lost, whereupon the minister shall issue a new certificate to the assignee as "assignee" under a new number, but having the same brand markings and showing on the face thereof that same is in lieu of the original certificate and such assignee shall pay therefor a fee of two dollars.

The owner of any brand may at any time make application to the minister for the allotment of a vent to the brand of which such applicant is the owner and such a vent may be allotted by the minister, recorded by him and a certificate of record thereof issued to the applicant. A charge of one dollar shall be made by the minister for such allotment and certificate.

Number of brands issued during each of the following years by the department are shown in the table below:

Year	Brands Issued	Year	Brands Issued	Year	Brands Issued
1903	59	1909	15	1915	110
1904	26	1910	13	1916	105
1905	30	1911	11	1917	173
1906	31	1912	19	1918	386
1907	26	1913	30	1919	330
1908	14	1914	35		

Minimum Wage Board

ANNUAL REPORT

Since submitting the report of the activities of the Minimum Wage Board up to November 30th, 1918, the board has continued in the plan adopted and has called representatives of employers and employees into conference with itself. During the past year, twelve such conferences have been held with the industries of Winnipeg, Brandon, St. Boniface and St. James. The expectation of the board in regard to the good effects arising from these conferences has been realized in many respects. The employees have demonstrated that they feel the protection of the board. On two or three occasions girls have brought their grievances to the board and in most instances amicable settlements with employers have been reached. In all cases where complaints have been brought to them it has been the policy of the board to advise employees to take up grievances with the management of their respective concerns before presenting their cases.

Through the year, employment of women has been unusually good, few women being unable to secure work. As had been anticipated, the minimum wage regulations are having a stimulating effect upon wages in general. The board feels now that practically all women in industry come under the scope of the Act—that the condition of the woman wage-earner in this province is second to none in the Dominion.

One regulation over which there was prolonged discussion at nearly all conferences has proved to have had far-reaching benefits. In many establishments where wages formerly were paid monthly or fortnightly, the male employees, as well as women, are now receiving their pay envelopes weekly. This is the result of the regulation "that wages shall be paid weekly, and after they have been earned shall be paid within three days."

It has been the duty of the board on one or two occasions to ask an employer to refuse to pay wages, which were not due an employee, owing to the fact that she had not lived up to the contract as required by the minimum wage regulations. Employers are loath to do this, but the members of the board are convinced that strict adherence to the law will ultimately be of great benefit to both parties concerned, and more particularly to the worker.

Special Cases

By reason of experience gained in many conferences, and an increasing knowledge of points to be guarded, the later findings of the board have been wiser than those arrived at in earlier conferences. The establishing of minimum wage and maximum hours for women employed in restaurants were probably the hardest problems which the board had to solve. Several meetings were held in an endeavor to arrive at conclusions agreeable to employers, employees and the board. The chief question under dispute was as to whether gratuities given to waitresses by customers could be looked upon as part of a regular wage. The conference finally agreed that a minimum must be established in this industry, and that employees must be paid at least a living wage by their employers, and further, that gratuities can not be considered as a reliable source of income. Great difficulty has been experienced in enforcing the law in regard to hours of employment in restaurants, and in all fairness to the employers it should be said that employees are not doing their part in seeing that regulations in this particular are being lived up to.

The drawing up of regulations for dressmaking and millinery trades brought the board face to face with difficult problems regarding wages for learners and minors. The system of apprenticeship has been practically abolished, and it was strongly maintained that the minors employed could not possibly earn the proposed wage. By visiting the technical schools of Winnipeg, where dressmaking and millinery are taught, the members of the board familiarized themselves with existing conditions, and we entertain the hope that before another year expires some arrangement for part-time work in those two industries may be a reality.

Amendments

During the late Spring and early Summer, the figures agreed upon in May, 1918, as necessary for a living wage came up for revision, and the members of the board were convinced that the minimums set for workers in laundries, food stuffs, soap, paper-box, drug and cigar factories, would have to be increased if the minimum wage was to be a living wage. Consequently a public meeting was arranged, and after being duly advertised, was held, and it

was agreed by representatives present that a minimum of eleven dollars should be established. It was a matter of surprise to the board to know that the figure named was, in nearly all cases, already the minimum adopted by the employers in these industries. This disproves the statement made by the opponents of minimum wage that "minimums become maximums."

The appended table shows the number of industries affected, the minimum wages, and the maximum hours imposed, in the various industries where female workers are employed in Winnipeg, Brandon, St. Boniface, St. James and in the Dauphin laundry, by the awards of The Minimum Wage Board. Early in January the board paid a visit to the City of Brandon, where conferences were held with representatives of all industries, and shops and stores, where women are employed. It was found that the cost of living and conditions are practically the same as those in Winnipeg, and regulations almost identical with those for similar industries were drawn up and agreed upon.

The complete survey of the field having been made, it is now one of the aims of the board to endeavour to standardize hours of labor. Members of the board are unanimous in the opinion that forty-eight hours is a sufficient portion of the week to devote to labor, and it is hoped to amend all regulations to that point. It will be noted, of course, that in some industries forty-eight hours is already the prevailing maximum, while office regulations call for a forty-four hour week.

Inspection

The secretary and members of the inspection staff of the Bureau of Labour have been earnest and most energetic in administrating the law. Problems are constantly arising which need wise and careful deliberation; common sense must be used and the exigencies of the case considered in order to bring about a sympathetic attitude toward new regulations. The inspectresses have been most diligent in the matter of seeing that the law is enforced in regard to night work. The inspection department and the board are equally determined that the law must be enforced.

Table of Wages and Hours

The attached table shows only the minimum wage and the maximum hours set for the various industries enumerated. The original table accompanying the report contains also the rates set for learners and minors. Particulars of these may be obtained by any interested person on application to the Bureau of Labor, parliament buildings, Winnipeg.

INDUSTRY	MINIMUM WAGE	MAXIMUM HOURS
Abattoirs.	$11.00 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week.
Amusement places.	Class A, Class B, $12. Class C, 35c. per hour.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week.
Auto tops, caskets, leather goods, tents and awning, paint, rag, broom and seed packing.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Bag factories.	Skilled, $12 per week. Unskilled, $11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Bedding factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 50 hours per week.
Cigar factories.	Skilled, no minimum; unskilled, $11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Confectionery and biscuits group.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Creameries group.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week.
Dyeing and dry cleaning.	A—$12 per week. B—$12 per week. C—$11 per week.	

INDUSTRY	MINIMUM WAGE	MAXIMUM HOURS
Printing and wholesale stationery establishments.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Shops or stores, except departmental and 5, 10, 15 cent stores.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day. 49 hours per week, except Saturday, when 11½ hours may be worked. Exception made for December.
Restaurants in Winnipeg and St. Boniface.	$12.50 per week.	10 hours per day. 48 hours per week. One full day off each week.
Soap factories.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 49 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Tailoring establishments.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 50 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Yeast group.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Macaroni and vermicelli factories.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 52 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Mail order establishments.	Class A—$12 per week. Class B—$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Millinery establishments.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day. 50 hours per week. Saturday half-holidays, June, July and August.
Offices in Winnipeg, St. Boniface and St. James.	$12.50 per week.	8 hours per day. 44 hours per week. One half-holiday each week.
Paper box factories.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 49 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Pickles group.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 50 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Hair dressing establishments.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week, except Saturday, when 11 hours may be worked. Half holiday each week.
Hotels, except those employed at news counters and on the office staff.	$12. 50 per week.	52 hours per week; two afternoons from 2 o'clock or one whole day off each week.
Jewellery factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 49 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Knitting factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 50 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Laundries.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 52 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Ladies' hat factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Ladies' wear factories.	Skilled, $12 per week. Unskilled, $10 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.

INDUSTRY	MINIMUM WAGE	MAXIMUM HOURS
Drug factories.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Departmental stores.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day. 50 hours per week.
Dressmaking establishments.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day, except Saturday, when 11½ hours may be worked. 49 hours per week.
Five, ten and fifteen cent stores	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday, 11½ hours. 53 hours per week during December.
Furriers establishments.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Garments and regalia factories, except millinery, dressmaking, tailoring and ladies' wear factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Glove factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 50 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Groceries group.	$11 per week.	9 hours per day. 50 hours per week. Saturday half-holiday.
Shops and stores, including those engaged in candy-making with any store.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day, except Saturday, when 11½ hours may be worked; 51 hours per week. Exceptions made from June to September, inclusive, and during fair week and seven days prior to Christmas.
	BRANDON	
Dressmaking establishments.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day. 49 hours per week. One half day off each week. Exceptions made when establishments are associated with store.
Hotels, except those employed at news counters and office staff.	$12.50 per week.	52 hours per week. One full day off per week or two afternoons from 2 o'clock.
Millinery establishments.	$12 per week.	8½ hours per day. 50 hours per week. Exceptions made where establishments are associated with store.
Offices.	$12.50 per week.	8 hours per day. 44 hours per week.
Seed packing and fireworks factories.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week. Exceptions for seed and fire works factories.
Printing and other manufacturing operations of wholesale stationers.	$12 per week.	9 hours per day. 48 hours per week.
Restaurants.	$12.50 per week.	10 hours per day. 48 hours per week. One full day off each week.

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Temperance Act Amendments

Important amendments to the Manitoba Temperance Act were passed at the 1920 session of the legislature which provided chiefly for added restrictions on the procuring of liquor for permitted purposes.

So far as the public generally is concerned the most important amendment is that which provides that no physician shall give or issue any prescription for the use of any person for a greater quantity then twelve ounces of alcohol, brandy, rum, gin and whiskey or twenty-four ounces of wine in any one day nor more than two gallons of malt liquor in any one week. Power is given to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to determine the form of prescription which shall be used by physicians for the purpose of prescribing liquor under the Act and it is provided that when such form of prescription is adopted no physician may use any other form and no licensed druggist may sell liquor upon a physician's prescription unless it is upon the form so determined. There is also the provision that no person may sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any prescription issued to him, and it is also an offence to purchase or otherwise acquire such a prescription. The number of prescription forms which a physician shall receive from the chief inspection is limited to 100 for any one calendar month. It is also provided that upon the second offence by a physician in contravention of this Act, the chief inspector shall not issue any prescription forms to such physician for a period of one year. Under the amendments, wholesale druggists are eliminated from the liquor business entirely and licensed retail druggists and others who may lawfully buy liquor for re-sale or manufacturing purposes will secure their supplies from vendors appointed by the government. The quantities which vendors may supply are set out as follows:

To licensees, that is, retail druggists, a quantity not exceeding five gallons in the aggregate at any one time or in any one day.

To registered medical practitioners a quantity of not more than two quarts at any one time or on any one day of such liquor as the practitioner is entitled to have for use in his profession only.

To a dentist who is lawfully and regularly engaged in the practice of his profession in the province a quantity not exceeding one pint at any one time and on any one day.

To a veterinary surgeon, duly registered and who is lawfully engaged in his practice in the province, a quantity not exceeding one gallon at any one time or in any one day for use in his profession only.

To an incorporated public hospital a quantity not exceeding five gallons at any one time.

Provision is made whereby a minister of the gospel or clergy of any religious body or church may be supplied with wine for sacramental purposes.

Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may determine from time to time the price or prices at which liquor shall be sold by vendors or licensees, and no liquor shall be sold by vendors at any other than the price so determined. It is also provided that the profits, if any, from the sale of liquor by government vendors shall go to the province, the vendors being paid a salary.

Alcohol or liquor for mechanical or scientific purposes, or for the manufacturing of vinegar, perfumes, pharmaceutical preparations, flavoring extracts and other products of recognized commercial value, can be obtained only on a permit from the chief inspector under the Act, and it is provided that no such alcohol or liquor shall be used for any purpose other than that specified in the permit. All applicants for permits must submit a written or printed certificate setting out that the alcohol is required for mechanical or scientific or manufacturing purposes only. No vendor may deliver any alcohol or liquor upon any such permits unless it is accompanied by an affidavit of the applicant and no more than one sale and one delivery is permitted on any one permit.

All persons who purchase liquor from a government vendor or on a permit issued by

the chief inspector are required to keep accurate record of every purchase, sale or disposal of such liquor and are required to make monthly reports accompanied by affidavit.

No licensed retail druggist may have or keep on his premises or elsewhere at any one time or on any one day more than ten gallons in the aggregate of alcohol, rye, gin or whiskey or more than ten gallons of wines or more than ten gallons of malt liquors. Licensed retail druggists are required to furnish to the chief inspector monthly transcripts of their records of sales, accompanied by affidavit.

No person within the Province of Manitoba, by themselves, servants or agents shall have or keep or give liquor in any such place other than the private dwelling in which he resides. Penalties for offences against the sections of the Act which prohibit the keeping of liquor for sale have been amended so that the penalty on conviction shall be a fine of not less than $200 nor more than $1000, and in default of immediate payment imprisonment for the full term of sixty days; or to a fine of not less than $100 nor more than $300 and in additional imprisonment for a period of not less than two weeks nor more than two months, and in default of immediate payment to imprisonment for a further period of sixty days; or to imprisonment for the full term of four months without fine. The penalty to be imposed may be one of the preceding in the discretion of the judge, magistrate or justice of the peace trying the case.

In the case of a second or subsequent offence the offender shall be liable to imprison ment for a term of not less than three or more than six months.

If the offender is an incorporated company it shall be liable to a fine of not less than $1000 for each offence.

The amendments summarized above do not come into effect until the new Act is proclaimed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. The legislature passed the necessary resolution making application for the submission of a referendum on the whole question of importation of liquor into the Province in accordance with Dominion legislation passed at Ottawa during the past session. The referendum will be submitted to the people of Manitoba some time during this year, the exact date not yet having been fixed by the authorities at Ottawa.

School Attendance Act Amendments

The School Attendance Act of 1916 was amended in a number of details during the recent session. School inspectors, who in the past have been required to inquire into conditions existing in the districts under his supervision with respect to the observations of the provisions of the school attendance Act, have now been given all the powers of a school attendance officer, which enables them to take direct action when they may deem same necessary. The provisions of the original Act, which provide for notification by a school attendance officer to the parent, guardian or other person in control or in charge of a child which had been found not to be attending school, has been amended so that the notice now requires that the child must attend some school within three days from the date of such notice and must continue in regular attendance thereafter to the first day of July next following unless some other satisfactory provision is made for the education of the child during this period.

The penalty clause for non-compliance with this provision of the act has also been amended to provide that not only must the child be sent to school within three days after notice is served but that it must continue in regular attendance until the first day of July following receipt of the notice. It is also provided for a second or subsequent offence under this Act, any parent, guardian or other person shall be liable to a fine not less than twenty and not more than fifty dollars, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days for each and every offence, also that any fine or costs imposed under this section may be collected by distress warrant as by law provided.

Industrial Conditions Act

The Industrial Conditions Act, one of the most important measures passed at the last session of the legislature, made certain amendments to the Industrial Conditions Act which had been passed at the 1919 session but which had not come into operation owing to the fact that the government had been unable at that time to secure the necessary co-operation of the leaders of organized labor in the province.

The general intention of the Industrial Conditions Act and the results which it is designed to attain are indicated in the preamble to the Act, which may be quoted:

> "Whereas it has been made to appear that industrial development in Manitoba tends to be retarded by disputes between employers and employees respecting conditions of employment;
>
> "And whereas the public interest requires that such disputes be prevented whenever possible, and if they cannot be prevented, be settled speedily and as far as practicable without interruption to industry;
>
> "And whereas it has been made to appear that the public interest requires that certain trade regulations respecting conditions of employment shall be enacted to the end that unjust and unfair conditions of employment may be prevented;
>
> "And whereas it appears that the appointment of a permanent joint council of industry may aid in the accomplishment of the objects above set out."

The following is a brief summary of the duties and powers of the Joint Council of Industry which was appointed shortly after the passing of the amended Act this year.

The Joint Council of Industry

The council is composed of five persons—two representing employers and two employees, under a chairman appointed by the government and through the government responsible to the people. *Note.*—The general public is in control in case of a deadlock.

Powers

The council has all the powers of a judge of the Court of King's Bench as regards conducting enquiries. The council has power whenever it has reason to believe that an industrial dispute exists, or seems likely to arise, to hold a complete investigation into same and make a report thereon. In many cases this investigation will prevent a strike, and in all cases as a result of same the public will have an intelligent knowledge of the matters in dispute.

Cost of Living

Section five provides for continuous investigation and report as to cost of living from time to time. Such report will enable the public to judge whether demands for increase in wages are justifiable or not.

Special Investigation

By section six the council has power to investigate the cost of any particular commodity or service and report thereon. Such investigations if thorough and continuous will disclose profiteers and curb profiteering. And will allay unrest by demonstrating to the people that the authorities are alert and vigilant in the public interest.

Unemployment

By section seven the council shall investigate and report as to the number of persons likely to be or actually out of employment, with which authentic information steps can be taken to provide employment or to prevent unemployment.

Housing Conditions

By section eight the council has power to investigate and report as to housing conditions and also as to what extent prevailing rates of wages enable employees to make provision for the future of themselves and their dependents.

Unfair Profits

By section nine the council has power to investigate and report as to unfair profits being made by any employer, or group of employers, through payment of unfair wages. This is to safe-guard against sweat-shop conditions and industrial "Bourbonism."

Protection of Employees Against Oppression

By section ten the council can take up the case of any employee who has been oppressively or unfairly treated and assist him financially in obtaining justice through the courts.

Protection Against Violation of Law

By section eleven the council is empowered to lay a formal complaint against persons guilty of violation of any law which affects employers and employees or the public and to procure conviction.

Recommendations for Legislation

The council has power to recommend to the legislature measures designed to improve conditions of employment and to safeguard against unemployment.

Collective Bargaining

By amendments passed at the last session the right of employers and employees to organize and to bargain with one another through their organizations, or the representatives thereof, or individually, is recognized by law.

The above are the outstanding features of this Act.

The offices of the Joint Council of Industry are in the parliament buildings, Winnipeg, and the council has already had before it a number of cases which would indicate that its services will be largely utilized. The commission consists of Rev. C. W. Gordon, chairman; Alderman Ernest Robinson and W. B. Simpson, representing the labor interests; John Stovel and H. B. Lyall representing the employing interests.

Seed Grain Loans by Municipalities

In order to cope with the shortage of seed grain in certain parts of the province and to enable the municipalities to assist farmers who find themselves without seed grain or resources to secure same, special legislation was passed at the recent session of the legislature giving all municipalities in the province the power to borrow a sum not exceeding $60,000 for the purpose of purchasing seed grain for farmers in the municipalities or for wives or other representatives of resident land owners who served in the Canadian forces during the war. The term during which this Act is operative is limited to six months from the date of the passing of the Act, which means that it applies only to the present crop season.

Municipalities may borrow the necessary money by promissory note or notes of the municipality or by the sale of debentures after a by-law of the municipality has been passed by the council authorizing the issue of special debentures. It is provided that such a by-law shall not be required to be submitted to or receive the assent of the ratepayers, which is the usual practise with money by-laws under the Municipal Act. Debentures issued under this Act may be for any term not exceeding five years and the interest thereon shall not exceed 7 per cent and must be repayable in equal consecutive annual instalments. Payments of these debentures and interest coupons will be guaranteed by the province and it is also provided that the Provincial Treasurer may invest provincial funds in the purchase of debentures issued under the provisions of this Act or may borrow the necessary funds in any approved manner. The Act provides that both the principal and interest of moneys borrowed by municipalities under this Act shall be discharged by yearly levies of a specific sum to be raised and levied on all rateable property in the municipality, and there shall be no sinking fund. It is also provided that no money shall be borrowed under this Act unless for the purpose of seed grain only. It is provided that no single individual may secure seed grain to a value of more than $1500, and that in no case shall money be lent to any individual but that the municipality shall purchase and provide the necessary seed grain and distribute the same. Seed grain cannot be supplied to a tenant unless with the consent of the owner of the land, and it is specifically provided that members of municipal councils may apply for and receive seed grain under this Act.

Game Protection Act

The Game Protection Act of 1916 was amended at the last session of the legislature. The most important change in the game laws is that which declared an open season of one week from October 15th to October 22nd for prairie chicken, partridge and grouse of any variety except ptarmigan. A limit of 25 birds is put on the number that any one person may kill during this season. The section of the Act which provides that farmers are exempt from the necessity of taking out an annual permit for the shooting of protected birds has been amended so that a farmer is specifically designated as a person actually resident on a farm either as owner or tenant.

Persons taking out permits for bird shooting are required to return such permits to the office of the Chief Game Guardian between November 15th and December 15th in the year for which the permit is issued, accompanied by an affidavit that the holder of the permit has not broken any of the provisions of the Game Protection Act.

The following exceptions are made to the general law that no person shall have in his possession any of the protected animals or birds or any edible portion of such animals or birds or the hide or pelt or such animals during the closed season. Game birds may be kept for the first ten days of each closed season, ducks of all kinds may be kept for the first four months of each closed season, venison legally in the possession of any person may be kept at any time for private use for food for himself and family. The heads and hides of game animals and the skins of pelts of fur-bearing animals may be kept at any time if legally obtained. The hides, skins or pelts of game or fur-bearing animals taken outside of Manitoba may be kept in the province at any time, also of ranch-bred animals. In this connection the proof of the time and locality of killing or taking shall be upon the person in possession.

The open season for muskrats north of the fifty-third parallel is set from March 15th to May 15th and from November 1st to November 30th in each year.

A new schedule for fees for licenses to those engaged in the fur business is provided as follows:

Wholesale raw dealer	$50.00
Raw fur buyer	25.00
Resident raw fur merchant or trader	10.00
Travelling agent	10.00

A new provision in connection with the fur trade is that no person may buy or otherwise acquire skins or pelts from a trapper without ascertaining that such trapper is provided with a permit, and the purchaser is required to record the name of the trapper together with the number of the trappers permit at the time of purchase.

Fees for permit to ship live fur-bearing animals out of the province have been changed so that the cost for live beaver is $5, live mink, fisher or marten is $1, and for live muskrats $2 per dozen or fraction thereof.

The Act provides for payment to the Department of Agriculture of certain royalties upon all undressed skins or pelts of fur-bearing animals taken in the province. There is no royalty to be paid on skins or pelts imported from outside of Manitoba or of ranch-bred animals. The amount of the royalty may be fixed from time to time by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council but must not be more than approximately 5 per cent. of the market value of the skin or pelt. The royalty is payable before skins or pelts may be shipped out of the province and a penalty of a fine of not less than $100 nor more than $500 with costs, and in default of payment six months' imprisonment is provided for conviction under this provision of the Act. The skins or pelts will also be confiscated.

Fur dressers and tanners are required to take out licenses, the annual fee for which is set at $10. Fur dressers and tanners are required to make returns to the Department of Agriculture monthly showing all skins and pelts treated during the month which are subject to the royalty.

Provision is also made that a license must be taken out for all game or fur-farms in the province, the fee for which is set at $45.

The schedule of royalties for the current year fixed by Order-in-Council is as follows:

Black Fox	$10.00	Mink	$0.75
Silver Fox	10.00	Bear	.75
Cross Fox	3.00	Wolverine	.50
White Fox	3.00	Skunk	.20
Red Fox	1.50	Weasel	.05
Fisher	3.00	Rat	.15
Marten	3.00	Wolf	2.00
Beaver	2.00	Badger	.10
Otter	2.00	Lynx	1.75

The fur royalty dated from April 15th, 1920, and applied to all pelts on hand at that date.

The Tax Commission

A permanent Tax Commission, to have general supervision over all matters of assessment and taxation in the province, was constituted by an Act called "The Tax Commission" passed at the recent session of the legislature. The formation of this permanent commission was in accordance with the recommendation of the Assessment and Taxation Commission which brought in its report with recommendations during the session.

The new commission is composed of three members to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, one of whom is named as chairman, and as such is the chief executive officer of the commission and presides at all meetings. He is the permanent official, and is required to devote his whole time to the duties of the commission, but the other two commissioners may not be required to do so if the work of the commission does not require the whole of their time. The offices of the commission are to be in the parliament buildings, Winnipeg, where the commission must hold regular meetings at least every month. Provision is also made whereby special meetings may be called at any time, and the board is also authorized to hold meetings elsewhere than in the city of Winnipeg, if expedient. The duties of the commission as set out in the Bill may be summarized as follows:

To have and exercise general supervision over the administration of the assessment laws of the province, over all assessors, to the end that all assessments of property, real and personal, liable to assessment, be made relatively just and uniform, and in strict accordance with the requirements in that behalf set forth in "The Assessment Act," or, in the cases of cities having special charters of incorporation, as set forth in such special charters.

To confer with, advise and direct assessors and others required by law to make assessments, as to their duties under the statutes of the province

To prescribe a uniform system of procedure to be observed by assessors, boards of valuation and revision, and other boards of assessment, in the preparation of assessment rolls.

To formulate and send to assessors appropriate forms of assessment rolls, and all other forms and notices required to be used in the assessment of all property liable to assessment.

To require assessors and other municipal officials to make such returns to the commission on any subject affecting the subject of assessment and taxation, and in such forms as it may call for from time to time.

To carefully examine into all cases where evasion or violation of the laws relating to the assessment and taxation of property is alleged, complained of, or discovered, and to ascertain wherein existing laws are defective, or are improperly or negligently administered, and to prepare and recommend to the Municipal Commissioner measures best calculated to remedy such defects.

To consult and confer with the Municipal Commissioner upon the subject of assessment and taxation, the administration of the laws relating thereto, and the progress of the work of the commission, and to furnish to him, from time to time, such information with regard thereto as he may require.

The Act provides that the commission should call a meeting of all assessors to be held in the city of Winnipeg as early as possible for the mutual study and consideration of tax problems, and it also directs that a similar meeting shall be held annually. It also directs that group meetings of assessors throughout the province should be held for the purpose of consulting with the assessors and investigating their work, etc.

The commission is also directed to study and investigate the assessment and tax laws of the other provinces of Canada, and of other countries, and to formulate and submit to the legislature such legislation as the commission may deem expedient to improve the existing laws of the province relating to assessment and taxation, in order that such laws may be just and fair. The commission is also charged to act as a board of equalization, to equalize in an equitable manner the valuation and assessment of all properties liable to taxation in the several municipalities in the judicial districts of the province and as between judicial districts. The basis of such equalization is to be the full value of all real property, and two-thirds the value of all buildings. The first equalization is to be made and reported to the Municipal Commissioner by the commissioner not later than May 1st, 1921, and it is provided that a similar equalization shall be made and reported in each consecutive year thereafter.

The commission is charged to receive, consider and report upon, for the information and guidance of the legislature, requests or petitions of municipal councils or other persons respecting the formation of new municipalities, or involving changes in the boundaries of existing municipalities. It is provided that the commission must make an annual report to the Municipal Commissioner to be laid before the legislature. The commission is given the usual powers to summon and examine witnesses and to compel the production of necessary documents, etc.

A penalty to a fine of not more than $50 besides the cost of prosecution and in default of payment imprisonment not exceeding one month is provided for any person who shall knowingly and wilfully neglect to comply with the requirements of the Act or any order of the commission.

The Insectivorous Birds Act

This Act was amended at the last session of the legislature so that it now provides that no person shall, at any time, shoot at, trap, kill, take, catch, wound or destroy, or attempt to shoot, shoot at, trap, kill, take, catch, wound or destroy:

(*a*) Any of the insectivorous birds known as cuckoos, woodpeckers, flickers, whippoorwills, nighthawks, swifts, hummingbirds, flycatchers, larks, Canada jays, bluejays, bobolinks, meadowlarks, orioles, grosbeaks, finches, crossbills, redpoles, snowflakes, longspurs, sparrows, juncos, towhees, buntings, tanagers, martins, swallows, waxwings, vireos, warblers, ovenbirds, yellow throats, pipits, catbirds, thrashers, wrens, creepers, nuthatchers, chickadees kinglets, thrushes, robins, and bluebirds, or any other birds which feed chiefly on insects.

(*b*) Any of the birds of prey known as turkey vultures, marsh hawks, red-tailed, red-shouldered Swainsons, broad-winged, roughlegged and sparrow hawks; ospreys; barn, long-eared, short-eared, barred, great gray Richardsons; saw-whet, screech, snowy, hawk, great horned and burrowing owls.

(*c*) Any kingfishers, which feed chiefly on small fish.

No person shall at any time hunt for, kill, shot at, trap, take, catch, wound or destroy, or attempt to shoot, trap, take, catch, kill, wound or destroy any of the migratory non-game birds known as grebes, loons, gulls, terns, cormorants, pelicans, bitterns and herons, or any other non-game birds, whether resident or migratory, except as in this Act provided,

Sharp-shinned hawks, Cooper's hawks, goshawks, eagles, prairie falcons, duck hawks, pigeon hawks, ravens, crows, cowbirds, yellow-headed, red-winged, rustry and brewers, blackbirds; bronzed and purple grackles (crow blackbirds), yellow-bellied sapsucker and English sparrows are not among the birds protected by this Act.

Reorganization of Provincial Police

One of the most important pieces of legislation enacted at the recent session of the legislature is that which provides for a complete re-organization of the Manitoba Provincial Police. It provides for the appointment of an officer to be known as the Commissioner who is appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council and shall be under the control of the Attorney General of Manitoba. The authority of the Commissioner and the force applies to the whole of the province except in what is known as Northern Manitoba. In that portion of the province they shall have authority only upon the direction of the Attorney General.

The most important change under this new legislation, apart from the fact that it provides for a largely increased force, is that the provincial police are now charged with the enforcement of the penal provisions of all laws in force in the province, whereas in the past their duties have been confined almost altogether to criminal matters. For this purpose it is provided that the Commissioner and every constable and officer of the force is ex-officio a game guardian under "The Game Protection Act," and inspector under "The Public Amusements Act," "The Motor Vehicle Act," and "The Amusements' Taxation Act," is a peace officer as may be defined by the criminal code and such other officer as may be designated in any act as being charged with the enforcement of the penal provisions thereof. He shall have all the powers necessary for the enforcement of the provisions of any such Act.

Appointments to the force are subject to the provisions of the Manitoba Civil Service Act and are made on the recommendation of the Commissioner. It is provided that the number of constables on the force shall not at any time exceed 100, and each constable upon his appointment to the force must sign articles of engagement for a period of service not less than two years. A constable may purchase his discharge from the force at any time during the said two years' term upon payment of the sum of $50, and he may resign after the expiry of the two years' term, but such resignation shall not take effect within one month without the consent of the Commissioner. It is provided that any constable may be suspended or discharged for cause by the Commissioner at any time. The Act also provides that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may, as the occasion may require, appoint any number of special constables or peace officers and such special constables shall be under the direction of the Commissioner unless the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council otherwise orders.

The bill does not in any way limit or affect the power of the appointment of constables or special constables in particular cases where such power of appointment now exists. In other words the jurisdiction of cities, towns, villages, and municipalities to appoint their own local constables or police officers is not affected. It is provided, however, that clerks of municipalities must make a return to the Commissioner not later than the 5th day of February in every year giving the names and addresses of their constables or police officers, and it is also provided that local or municipal constables shall, upon the request of the Commissioner, deliver to the Commissioner or any person designated by him all warrants or other papers, photographs or things dealing with any criminal cases which may be the subject of investigation by the provincial police.

It is provided that every member of the force shall be upon salary, and that all fees costs and other charges collected or collectible by any constable shall be paid to the Commissioner and by him remitted to the Provincial Treasurer for the credit of the consolidated revenue of the province. It is also provided that all moneys paid for their discharge by constables and all rewards earned by them shall be paid to the Commissioner to be placed by him in a benefit fund and administered for the benefit of the whole force by a committee composed of the Commissioner and one inspector or constable from each of the judicial districts in the province to be elected for the period of two years by the inspector and constables in each district.

The Act provides that it shall be the duty of every person in the province, when called upon by any police officer or any member of the force, to give prompt aid and assistance to him in the execution of his duties, and any wilful neglect or omission to comply with such request will render such person liable to a fine not exceeding $20, or in default of

payment imprisonment not exceeding thirty days upon summary conviction before a justice of the peace.

The re-organization of the Manitoba Provincial Police took effect officially on April 1st, 1920, prior to which all constables who had been appointed were put through a lengthy course of training and instruction in their duties. The force is composed very largely of men who had served with the Canadian military forces overseas. The Commissioner, whose appointment was announced some time ago, is Lt.-Col. J. G. Rattray.

Reclamation Branch Department of Public Works

The annual report of the chief engineer of the reclamation branch of the Department of Public Works records that greater progress is discernible in the more careful expenditure by the municipal councils of funds devoted to roadwork and drains. They are finding that money expended under competent advice is bringing better results, and although they may in some cases find initial costs apparently high, the results attained in the end justify the cost, and show economy over the old plan of half doing a job some two or three times.

There are, however, some municipal councillors who appear to be unable to get out of the rut in which a great deal of municipal work has been for years, and the report strongly urges that in all future grants made the absolute adhesion to the engineer's specifications be made a definite and prominent point.

The usual short tenure of office of councillors tends to prevent the adoption of a systematic plan of roads and drainage for the whole municipality, and the engineer therefore advises encouragement of the formation of such plans.

During the past year the government's policy of aiding as much as possible the more backward and newer settled districts has been the subject of much study, and all work has been carefully laid out and inspected. The cost of work, however, continues to grow, both labor and material having gone up in price during the season.

Timber for bridge material continues to go up in price and the quality is not what it was a few years ago. It is still sawn short of dimensions and will continue to be until the consensus of public opinion compels the mills to furnish what they are paid for. The specifications under which the various grades of quality are fixed enable the shipper to practically furnish a very poor grade of timber instead of the No. 1 of years ago. The cost being high and quality poor, and yet no other material being available for many structures, it will be necessary to find some means of adding to the life of the timber, and the department have already started work on these lines, but are handicapped by the unseasoned timber.

The survey and registration of the various trails in the province is being carefully guarded, and proceeded with as speedily as possible, as this work will cost more in the future as time goes on.

During the year a start has been made on making more permanent monuments at section and quarter-section corners. A post made of one piece of standard one-inch butt welded wrought iron gas pipe, thirty inches in length, coated with asphaltum and filled with concrete, with a bronze cap three inches in diameter, and a foot-plate of malleable iron three and one-half inches in diameter, has been selected. Each corner has been further marked by placing four pits, each three-foot square and one and one-half feet deep, at a distance of five and one-half feet from the corner. One hundred and sixty of these pits have been constructed during the year.

Extensive surveys have been carried on during the past year, notably: Pine Creek drainage, Lansdowne-Rosedale drainage, and a number of others of lesser importance. The field date of the two mentioned is complete.

The engineer again draws attention to the very grave risk which, in his opinion, this province is running in the denuding of hillsides of timber and brush by cutting, clearing and fire. The inevitable result will be the prompt release of flood water before drains in lower lands are open, the destruction of the fertile hillsides and bench land and the more than precarious condition of the lower lands. This is no mere theory, but has actually occurred in many places in the world's history.

The Public Schools Act

A number of minor amendments were made to the Public Schools Act at the last session of the legislature. Provision was made for municipal school districts by an amendment that the board of trustees of every municipal school district would be a corporation under the provisions of the Public Schools Act.

The provision of the old Act which empowered the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to create school districts in organized or unorganized territory where school districts has not been constituted has been amended giving the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council the power to readjust the boundaries of any such district and to detach land from existing school districts or to add to existing school districts lands not included in any school district.

Regulations regarding school meetings have been amended so that five ratepayers shall constitute a quorum at any annual or special meeting.

The section defining the amount of remuneration which may be paid to the secretary-treasurer of a school district has been amended so that the maximum remuneration is increased from $25 to $50 in any school district employing two or more teachers. The maximum has been increased from $50 to $100 in districts employing five or more teachers at any one time and in consolidated school districts and municipal school districts the salary of the secretary-treasurer may be fixed at the discretion of the trustees.

The section providing for public notice of annual or special school meetings has been changed, making such notice seven days instead of two weeks.

Trustees are required to provide an adequate supply of pure drinking water each day a school is in session.

A new provision added in the amendments of 1920 is that when the arrears of taxes in any school districts in unorganized territory are so great as to render the expenditure of the district insufficient for the proper supply for the school for the current year, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may authorize the expenditure by way of a loan from the funds of the province of such sums as may be required.

The compensation which may be made to parents for conveying their children to a consolidated school instead of allowing the trustees to have it done has been increased from 15c. to 50c. per day.

The section defining the duties and powers of school trustees has been amended to provide that the members of municipal school boards may, should the board by by-law so decide, be paid $3 per day for each meeting attended. The total amount in one year may not exceed the amount of $45 and they may also be allowed 10c. per mile each way from residence to place of meeting.

The section providing for the collection of fees from non-resident pupils attending for instruction in grade 9 or in higher grades has been amended so that the total amount of such fee may be collected each term in advance and any earned portion may be refunded if the pupil leaves school before the last month in the term.

The section which provides for precaution to be taken against the spread of infectious diseases among children attending school has been amended so that skin diseases or vermin are included among the causes for which a child may be excluded from attendance until authorized to return by a written statement of the health officer or physician.

Whenever an additional school site is required in any school district the trustees shall have full power to select the same.

The section giving a school board the power to make loans for current expenses has been amended by the addition of the provision that it shall not be necessary to have the consent of the Department of Education to any such loan.

For the purpose of assisting returned soldiers to become qualified as teachers the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may authorize the expenditure by way of loan of such sums as may be required, but not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of $400 to any one soldier. The intention is that such loans are to be repaid in instalments when the borrower has qualified and secured employment.

The section of the Act governing the qualifications of school trustees has been amended so that a trustee is not disqualified through being a shareholder in any company having dealings with any school board of which the trustee is a member.

The Department of Education is given power to lend to any school district such sum or sums of money as may be necessary for the erection of a teacher's residence.

The following provisions have been made for the procedure to be followed in the formation and organization of high school districts. Where a high school district is established it shall be developed as part of the school system in one of the public school districts to be included within the high school area. The board of trustees of such high school district shall constitute the board of public school trustees of the public school district selected, together with three trustees elected by the ratepayers of the remaining portion of the territory within the high school district. The first step in the organization of a high school district is a petition setting forth the specified area to be included and signed by at least 10 per cent. of the ratepayers resident in the area. This petition shall be presented to the municipal council or councils concerned, which are thereupon required to pass a by-law to establish such a high school district and to submit same to a vote of the electors of the municipality resident within the high school district. Any elector resident in the area who is duly qualified under The Municipal Act shall be entitled to vote on such by-law and a majority of those voting will be sufficient to carry the by-law.

The amount of money which any rural school district may borrow has been increased from $3000 to $5000.

The section which provides that any trustee having any pecuniary interest or benefit in any contract or agreement with the school board to an amount exceeding $20 in any one year shall vacate his seat has been amended by making the minimum sum $40.

Manitoba Teachers' Federation

At the recent session of the legislature a Bill was passed incorporating an association under the name of "Manitoba Teachers' Federation." The object of the association is described as being "for the purpose of bringing into relations of mutual helpfulness the various associations of teachers throughout the province and generally to elevate the character and promote the interests of the profession of teaching and the cause of education in the Province of Manitoba."

The federation has been given wide powers and authority, including the power to acquire and hold by purchase, gift, devise, bequest or otherwise any lands, tenements, etc., not exceeding an annual rental value of $5,000 and any real or personal property, stocks, bonds, shares and securities which it shall hold for the use and purpose of the federation. It is given the power to sell, exchange, mortgage or otherwise dispose of any property vested in the federation. It is expressly provided that any member of the federation shall be in any way liable or chargeable with any debt due by the federation beyond the interest fee paid and any annual subscriptions remaining unpaid by the said member. Members are allowed to withdraw and cease to be members upon giving notice to that effect providing such members are not indebted to the federation at the time of withdrawal.

The Threshers' Lien Act

The Threshers' Lien Act was amended at the last session of the legislature to provide that if there be a dispute between the farmer and the thresher as to the amount of grain threshed or as to the price to be charged for threshing, or in case the farmer asserts any set-off or counter claim against the thresher, the total amount claimed by the farmer may be paid by the farmer into the county court. The farmer paying the money into the court is required to notify the clerk of the court of the name of the thresher whereupon there may be sued out an interpleader summons to settle the dispute between the farmer and the thresher.

The provision in the original Act whereby the thresher is allowed to retain a portion of the threshed grain to secure payment for the threshing has been amended so that it is now necessary for the thresher to give notice in writing to the farmer of his intention to sell such grain and the grain may not actually be sold until the expiration of five days after such written notice has been given.

Purchasing Department

The annual report of the Government Purchasing Department, which operates under the Department of Public Works, records that, as stated in previous reports, all three sources of supply—retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers—have been taken advantage of during the past year and competitive prices have been obtained wherever possible, also samples submitted. Where values were equal the goods were invariably purchased on the lowest quotation. Where both value and prices were equal a fair distribution of the orders was aimed at.

While it would be impossible to keep a full and itemized account of the actual savings made on the different purchases (without keeping an extra staff for such purpose) tests have from time to time been made which have shown a saving to the province of from 10 per cent to 40 per cent, and in some cases more.

The report mentions three or four of the larger purchases as examples, *viz:*

(1) *Butter Purchased for the Manitoba Agricultural College—*

In August last, 19,096 pounds of No. 1 creamery butter were purchased at 49c, delivered at storage plant, which if purchased today or any time during the last six weeks could not be procured at less than 70c per pound, which means an actual saving on the larger portion of the said butter of 19c to 20c per pound, or a total of $3000 to $4000 on this one purchase. It is suggested that by purchasing butter for all provincial institutions in the summer and placing it in cold storage for distribution as required, a very much larger amount may be saved on this one commodity. Prior to the establishing of the purchasing bureau the butter for the college had been purchased from month to month at the current prices.

(2) *Coal Purchased for the Central Power House and the Manitoba Agricultural College—*

In August last coal was purchased for the above institution at $8.45, delivered at the central power house, and $7.40 on track at the college. It had been the custom of the government to purchase coal under contract during November, just before the beginning of the fiscal year. This, in the opinion of the purchasing agent, was not the proper time to make the purchase of coal, the early summer or midsummer being a much better time, when coal is always at its lowest price. Had this purchase been made in November, the usual time of purchasing, it would cost $1.45 per ton more, or a total of almost $11,000, which amount will be actually saved during the season as it will be delivered and consumed.

(3) *The Purchase of 7000 Feet of Steel Cable for the Well Drilling Department Made in March Last—*

Purchase of this material in small quantities were being made from one of the wholesalers in Winnipeg at the regular wholesale price. Being familiar with the different sources of supply, the purchasing bureau succeeded in obtaining a special price from a manufacturer's agent on this larger quantity, through which we made a saving of over $700. That is, the quantity of cable that would have cost $1,937.25 through the usual channel cost only $1,207.50.

The conditions of trade which have obtained during the year have made the purchase of supplies very difficult. While prices have continued to advance, the quality of the goods has not been maintained, besides stocks have been steadily growing shorter. In fact, in some lines it has been almost impossible to get supplies.

The report again recommends that the government should make for its own use men's and boys' suits, overalls, smocks and shirts at one of its institutions.

The Agricultural Societies Act

The Act respecting agricultural societies which was entirely recast at the 1917 session of the legislature was amended at the last session by the addition of a section which gives agricultural societies the authority to borrow money for the purposes of the society and in order to secure repayment thereof, to hypothecate, mortgage or pledge the real or personal property of the society.

Drainage Commission

Important amendments to the Drainage Commission Act of 1918 were made at the last session of the legislature. The commission has been given power to inquire into and determine what portion of the cost of drainage work now or hereafter constructed in the respective drainage districts of the province shall be charged annually against each parcel of land in these districts. In arriving at this apportionment the commission is required to take into consideration the benefit accruing or likely to accrue of such land from the drainage works and also all outstanding liabilities of such districts.

The commission is also directed to inquire into and determine what portion of the cost of drainage heretofore or hereafter done in the making of roads under the provisions of the Land Drainage Act should be borne by the respective municipalities within which roads lie and what portion of such cost of drainage should be borne by the province in respect of lands owned by the province and which have not hitherto been assessed for this purpose.

The commission is given power to nominate appraisers to be appointed by the government and to fix the remuneration to be paid to them. Notice of any re-assessments made by the commission must be given to the owner of the lands and the owner is given the privilege to make an appeal to the commission against such assessment.

Manitoba Power Commission

Amendments to the Electrical Power Transmission Act, which will greatly widen its scope and powers, were passed at the recent session of the legislature, and the board which administers the Act has been given the official title of "The Manitoba Power Commission." The original Bill passed at the 1919 session applied only to incorporated cities or towns in Manitoba, but the amendments of this year now make it applicable to villages and rural municipalities, which means that the Act now applies to the whole of the organized portions of the province.

The original Act empowered the government to raise money for the carrying out of the purposes of the Act to a total not exceeding $350,000. The amendments increase this to one million dollars.

Another important amendment is that which provides that in the case of a municipality which has not made application to the power commission for a survey and report on the possibilities of developing or supplying electrical power, the Minister of Public Works may make all necessary inquiries and investigations on his own initiative. Under the original Act, the initiative rested with the municipality which was required to make application to the minister or the power commission before the machinery of the commission could be set in motion. The amendment provides that the minister may therefore make all necessary inquiries and investigations to ascertain the total cost of constructing the necessary power transmission line to or in a municipality, the probable cost of the plant necessary for the distribution of power or energy in a municipality, the probable cost at which the electrical power or energy can be supplied and whether financial arrangements can be made or are advisable.

Power is also given to the commission to construct, purchase, lease or otherwise acquire the necessary power transmission lines and such plant as may be required for the distribution of electrical power or energy in or through any municipality or part thereof even if such municipality is not under a subsisting contract with the commission. The commission may distribute and sell electrical power and energy to any person or persons in municipalities which are not under subsisting contracts and may charge and collect such rates or prices therefor as may be deemed sufficient to cover fees, charges and costs of maintenance and replacements. It is also set out that the provisions of The Manitoba Expropriation Act shall be applicable to any work undertaken under this Act by the Commission.

The work of the Manitoba Power Commission has grown very rapidly since its organization in 1919. The transmission line from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie is almost complete, the work having been retarded by the extremely severe winter and to some damage done by the unprecedented snow and sleet early in March.

Plans have been matured for a large amount of work to be undertaken during the summer in accordance with applications which have come from a number of municipalities in the province. The details of some of this work are set out in a recent order-in-council which authorizes the expenditure of $516,500 to be used for the following purposes:

To tap the Portage la Prairie line at Oakville and run a line through Carman to Morden with lateral lines to Roland, Winkler and Manitou, the whole to cost $250,000.

To tap the Portage line at High Bluff and run a line to Gladstone, to cost $150,000.

To purchase a set of conductors and transformers for the Portage line, $90,000.

To survey a route for a line from Winnipeg along the Red River valley to Emerson, at a cost of $1,500.

To purchase a construction plant, including one earth-boring machine, two 2-ton trucks, two automobiles and other equipment, $25,000.

The Educational Board of Reference

An amendment to the Education Department Act of great importance to the teaching profession and to school boards throughout the province was passed at the recent session of the legislature. The amendment provides for the constitution of a board to be known as "The Board of Reference," to consist of three members to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, one representing the school trustees of the province, one representing the school teachers of the province, and the chairman of the board who shall be neither trustee nor teacher.

The powers and duties of the board are set out in the Bill as follows:

(*a*) To cause inquiry to be made into and to investigate all cases where it is made to appear to the board upon complaint of any person or organization that a disagreement between teachers and trustees has arisen, or wherever the board has reason to believe that such a disagreement is likely to arise, and to make such report thereon as is just and reasonable, having regard to all the parties involved in such disputes and the special circumstances existing, or likely to come into existence, in the matter affected;

(*b*) To act as a board of arbitration at the request of either party to any dispute between any board of trustees and their teacher or teachers and, when so acting, such board shall exercise all the powers regarding the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents as are vested in the Court of King's Bench in civil cases;

(*c*) To deal with such other matters as may be referred to them from time to time by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

Good Roads Act

An important amendment to the Good Roads Act passed at the last session of the legislature is that which provides that the Minister of Public Works may purchase road-building plant, gravel pits, etc., for use in building roads. The amendment provides that these may be acquired by purchase, lease or in any other way, and includes all plant machinery, equipment, gravel pits, stone quarry, timber or other materials which may be recommended by the good roads board.

The amount of money which the government is authorized to borrow for the purpose of roadbuilding in the province has increased from $2,500,000 to $5,000,000.

To Fight Plant Diseases

For the purpose of helping Manitoba farmers and gardeners to increase crop production by preventing or lessening the many plant diseases which at present attack his crops, the Manitoba Agricultural College has appointed G. R. Bisby, formerly of Minnesota College of Agriculture, to take charge of a special department, which will be known as the Department of Plant Diseases, and in which, it is hoped, by means of experiments and observations, to greatly decrease the most prevalent diseases which attack Manitoba crops.

Potato diseases will form a large proportion of the experimental work to be done this summer. The potato, Prof. Bisby stated recently, is a plant which suffers from a great number of diseases. Treatment of seed potatoes for scab and black scurf and other blemishes will be carried out by soaking the seed in various solutions, and experiments will be performed to determine the best procedure to follow in treating the seed tubers. By spraying the plants with some such preparation as Bordeaux mixture, Prof. Bisby said, diseases such as spotting and drying up of the leaves may be prevented, and this mixture, he added, may be combined with paris green or other poison and applied for bugs and beetles. The value of Bordeaux mixture, and the best method and time of application will be tested by the plant diseases department. Attention will also be paid to the disease known as "running out" of potatoes, which was noticed in England as long ago as 1782. A recurrence of this trouble has had a serious effect on potato crops in this province and will receive special attention from the department.

Efforts will be made to lessen the losses experienced from rust and wilt by growers of flax, and it is hoped that the department will be able to develop a strain of flax which will be resistent to wilt.

The Agricultural College has already done a great deal in advising methods of a treatment of wheat and other cereals subject to rust and smut. Further work will be done in connection with smuts, and it is hoped that the time will come when the smut disease will be practically unknown in the province. Rust is a disease not so easily overcome, but the destruction of barberries in Manitoba and in the States on the Canadian border will greatly lessen the seriousness of this disease. There is also much hope for the production of strains which will be resistent to rust.

Notification of plant diseases, accompanied, if convenient, by specimens, will be gladly received by the Plant Diseases Department, Agricultural College, Winnipeg.

Bulletin on Making Women's Hats

One of the lines of commerce that has not escaped the High Cost of Living movement is millinery; at least this is the opinion of some husbands and fathers. To enable Manitoba women, both rural and urban, to be more resourceful in the making of their own hats, the Agricultural Extension Service has for years been conducting short courses in millinery in various parts of the Province, seventy-five of these courses being held in 1919.

As an aid in this work, and also to carry the instruction to other women who may not be able to attend these schools, the Manitoba Department of Agriculture has just published a 32-page bulletin "Lessons in Millinery." The author is Miss Agnes Campbell, one of the instructors in millinery for the Extension Service. The bulletin contains 111 illustrations, and describes very carefully and clearly the various operations in connection with hat making. The value of this bulletin is not in any way dependent upon the present millinery styles being maintained—indeed the matter of styles is scarcely discussed at all—it is not a book of styles but a book of instructions as to how to perform the various fundamental millinery operations.

A free copy may be had on application to the Publications Branch, Manitoba Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.